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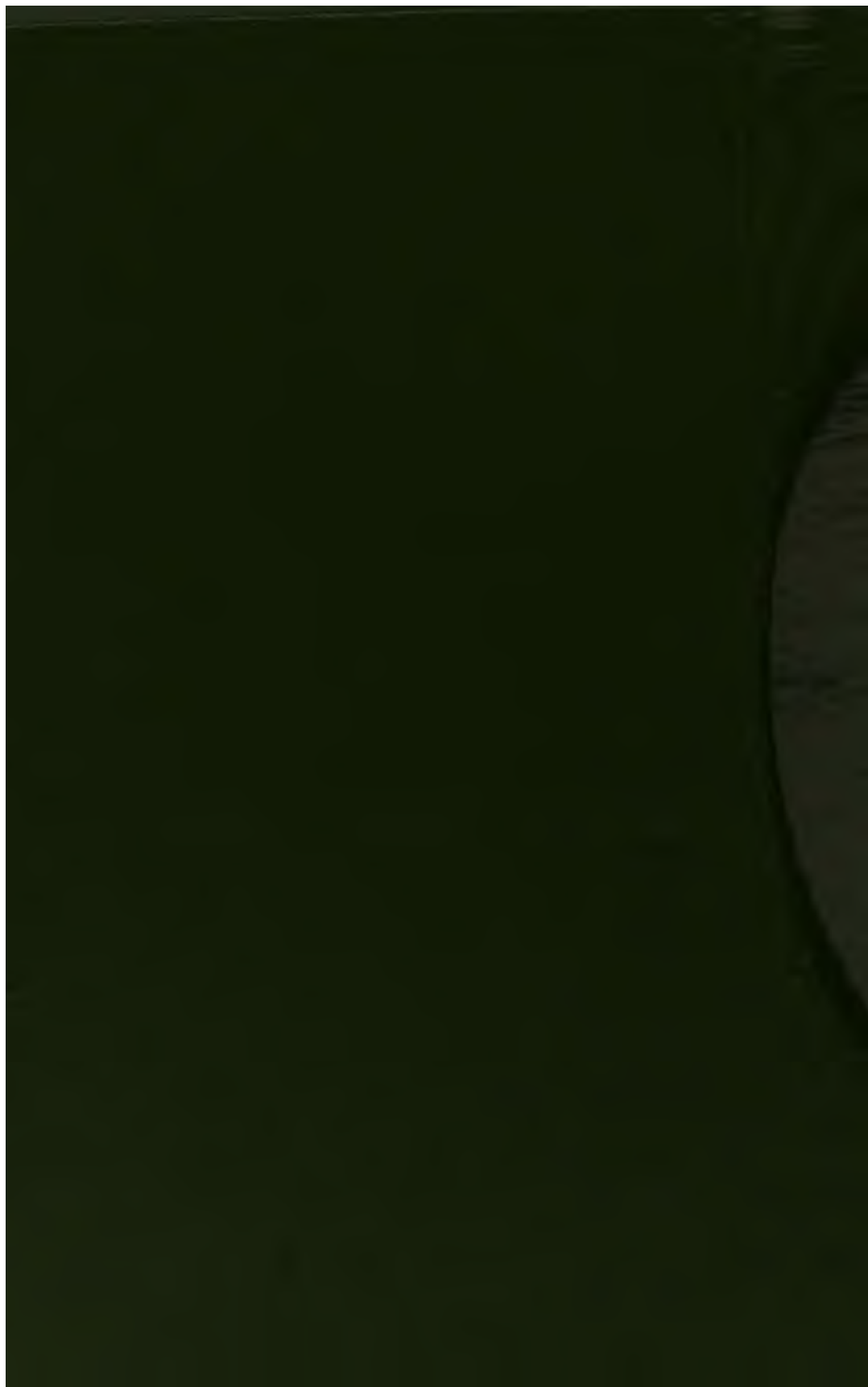
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THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1890.



Printed by the City of Boston.

1891

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The number of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase to 15.5 million by 2020, and the number of people aged 75 and over to 8.5 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The increase in the number of people aged 65 and over is due to a combination of factors, including a decline in the birth rate, a decline in the death rate, and a decline in the rate of emigration. The increase in the number of people aged 75 and over is due to a combination of factors, including a decline in the birth rate, a decline in the death rate, and a decline in the rate of emigration.

The increase in the number of people aged 65 and over has led to a corresponding increase in the number of people who are dependent on others for their care. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people aged 65 and over who were dependent on others for their care. By 1995, this number had increased to 2.0 million, and by 2000, it had increased to 2.5 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The increase in the number of people who are dependent on others for their care is due to a combination of factors, including a decline in the birth rate, a decline in the death rate, and a decline in the rate of emigration. The increase in the number of people who are dependent on others for their care has led to a corresponding increase in the number of people who are dependent on others for their care. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people aged 65 and over who were dependent on others for their care. By 1995, this number had increased to 2.0 million, and by 2000, it had increased to 2.5 million (Office of National Statistics 1999). The increase in the number of people who are dependent on others for their care is due to a combination of factors, including a decline in the birth rate, a decline in the death rate, and a decline in the rate of emigration.

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City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

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THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1906



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1906

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,

Mayor of the City of Boston:

SIR, — The Board has the honor herewith to submit this report for the year ending January 31, 1906.

The only construction work of importance done by the department during the past year, for which special appropriations were provided, has been the improvement of several of our playgrounds. The principal work was done at the Marcella-street, Randolph-street, and Columbus-avenue playgrounds, which have been graded and fenced, and shelter and sanitary buildings constructed. A small addition was made to Marcella-street playground by taking land, reserved, in the first instance, for a street, which was afterwards found to be unnecessary. The removal of the buildings formerly on the land, and the building of a retaining-wall, now in progress and which will permit of filling out to the new line, will make a large addition to the area of this playground. The new locker and sanitary building adds much to the usefulness of this playground.

Commonwealth playground, located on the filled land belonging to the Commonwealth at South Boston, has been put in charge of the Board by the City Council, and we have built there a small sanitary building and put the playground in good condition for use. The uncertain tenure under

which the City has this playground prevents the Board from considering further construction work here.

The part of Columbia road remaining unfinished east of the bridge over the Old Colony Railroad has been practically completed. This is the last of the work which the Street Department was authorized to do under the Parkway Act of 1897. The opening of this road throughout its entire length from Franklin Park to Marine Park adds a little more than four miles to the parkways now under control of the Board, and unites the urban and Marine Park systems, making a continuous park drive of about twelve miles.

The retention of Fort Independence by the United States Government still postpones provision for proper shelter and conveniences for the public on Castle Island. This delay in turning over the fort to this department has been due to the storage in the fort of submarine mining property, which is awaiting accommodations to be provided elsewhere. We are constantly urging the War Department to remove this property so that the control of these buildings shall pass to our hands, as was contemplated by the resolve of Congress placing the island under the control of the City as part of its park system.

The Street Department, under authority of the Charles River Basin Act of 1903, has completed the new foul-flow conduit in the Fens and rebuilt the seven-foot Stony brook conduit, through which the water of Stony brook now finds access to Charles river. This relieves the Fens from the contamination to which it has long been subject from this source. The dredging of the Fens' basin, provided for in the act referred to, has also been completed in the upper basin.

Chapter 89 of the acts of 1905 authorized the Board to exchange land with the Museum of Fine Arts and to enter into an agreement with it for relocating and reconstructing the Huntington avenue entrance, upon the southerly side of which the new Art Museum is to be built. Mutual con-

veyances of the lands in question were accordingly made, by which the City conveyed to the Art Museum 22,481 square feet of land adjoining the Museum site, receiving from its Trustees a deed for 34,559 square feet of land in exchange. We also conveyed to the Museum, for the consideration of twenty-three thousand dollars, 9,676 square feet of land on the opposite side of the Huntington avenue entrance, and made an agreement with the Trustees, for the above-named consideration, for them to reconstruct the entrance and the parts of the Fens in the vicinity of the entrance which required rearrangement. These changes will give a better shaped lot for the new Art Museum, and are also to the public advantage in improving the park lines.

Commonwealth avenue from Beacon street to the Newton boundary line was, late in the year, placed in charge of this Department by the City Council. The roadways are very much worn and need resurfacing, for which work we shall require an appropriation, as well as for loam and trees, which are now much needed. The poor condition of the roadways is partly due to automobiles and the high speed at which they have been run. This addition of 9.3 miles of roadway, giving us forty-two miles of macadamized roads which can only be maintained in good condition by frequent rolling with a heavy roller and judicious watering, will necessitate a further addition to the number of steam rollers and water carts in use by the department, and will make a considerable increase in our expenditures for maintenance.

We regret to be obliged to state that, under the present inadequate appropriations for maintenance, the general quality of the upkeep of our parks and playgrounds is deteriorating. A certain amount of new work is given to the department each year, to meet which insufficient or no provision is made. The result is that many of our roads are worn to the foundations and are in need of heavy repairs, and our trees and shrubs show the lack of good cultivation. This deficiency in the appropriations is very much to be

regretted, most of all for the sake of the trees, on whose health and proper growth depends so much the beauty and value of Boston's parks and playgrounds.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. STRATTON,
LABAN PRATT,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,

Commissioners.

Boston, January 31, 1906.



OLMSTED PARK—PINE BANK.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO CHARLES E. STRATTON, LABAN PRATT AND JAMES
M. PRENDERGAST, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN, — I herewith submit a report of the work performed under the direction of your Board during the year ending January 31, 1906.

FRANKLIN PARK.

The improvement in the woodlands generally throughout the department becomes more noticeable with each season. Our work in thinning out overcrowding or worthless growth, and the cutting off of dead and diseased limbs, shows its good results in the feathering out of the trees and the more vigorous undergrowth of native shrubs and herbaceous plants, strengthened by our letting in light and air. Another factor in the improvement of these woodlands has been the mulching of the surface with loam where the soil covering was found to be thin or poor in quality. We have done considerable of this work, yet much remains to be done. Many of the old woodlands in Franklin Park are situated on rocky slopes with a light covering of loam for their support. Additions of loam (for which we need additional appropriations) to trees growing under such conditions would materially increase their growth and beauty.

During the past fall and winter extensive preparations were made for spring planting, a large number of holes being carefully prepared along the Canterbury-street border for young oaks. On Juniper hill ground was prepared for planting oaks and junipers, and preparations were made along

the face of the slope of Scarboro hill for planting thorns, dogwood and other large-growing shrubbery. Arrangements for this sort of planting were also made on the edge of the young plantations on the opposite slope of the hill, along the Circuit Drive. The material for this work is all at hand in the nurseries of the department. Ground was prepared last spring in the Wilderness for a colony of mountain laurels. The plants were collected from native stock, which had been cultivated in the department nurseries for four years, and were in fine condition. The planting forms an irregular grouping along the road and bridle-path in the Wilderness, and promises, in a little time, to be a very pleasing feature. The young tree plantations are generally in good condition. Much better growth, however, would accrue each year did our means permit of a higher degree of cultivation.

Smoke conditions are becoming more serious with each season. Evergreens especially show the effect very markedly. At the present rate of increase of smoke pollution in the atmosphere a very few years will see the end of evergreen conifers in our parks, except as stunted, blackened specimens. Therefore the planting of conifers for permanent effect would seem to be unwise.

Efforts have been made for the past two seasons to breed pheasants in the park, by using domestic hens as brooders. Last year about fifty were carried through until fall, enough of which still remain to interest visitors to the park. Quail, too, are protected and fed in winter, and are fairly plentiful in the Arboretum and in Franklin Park.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, THE ARBORWAY AND JAMAICAWAY.

Except the ordinary work of maintenance, no work of importance was done in the Arboretum. Along the Arborway, Jamaica way and Riverway a heavy thinning out of large shrubs was made. These were principally cornels and viburnums, which encroached, by overhanging growth, on roads and paths.

OLMSTED PARK.

In Olmsted Park little was required outside of the work of maintenance. As in the Riverway, the remarkable growth of the tree and shrubbery plantations called for a large amount of thinning out.

THE FENS.

The work of the Sewer Department in the Fens, together with the changes consequent on the new alignment of the property of the Museum of Fine Arts, and the filling in of the new Fens' playground, made this part of the park system anything but an agreeable place during the past season. The Fenway drive and adjoining planting spaces over the conduit were restored, and some planting was done. Work is now in progress on the grading near the Museum grounds and gatehouses, with the prospect that the greater portion of this ground will be ready for planting in the spring.

The work of filling the new Fens' playground is still in progress, the material being mostly received from the Sanitary Department. At the present rate of progress the filling will not be completed until the end of summer.

The pumping of sewage from the bottom of the Fens' pond by the Sewer Department is not yet completed.

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE.

The young elms planted in the spring of 1904, between Dartmouth street and Brookline avenue, have made an excellent growth.

CHARLESBANK.

The construction work of the Charles River Basin Commission has interfered sorely with the comfort and convenience of those using this recreation ground. However, the marginal conduit along Charles street is now completed, and the work of restoration of the surface can be undertaken.

The gymnasiums were as usual well patronized. In the men's outdoor gymnasium classes for boys and young men were conducted, as in the past. The report of the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association, giving an account of the work done in the women's and children's gymnasium, will be found elsewhere in this report.

WOOD ISLAND PARK.

The trees at this attractive resort continue to make excellent growth. In consequence, the slopes, which six or seven years ago were bare and wind-swept, now give a pleasant shade to the many thousands who visit the park during the season. The success attending the efforts to establish tree growth on Wood Island demonstrates clearly that the islands in the harbor could be much enhanced in beauty were such portions as could be devoted to the purpose planted with suitable trees.

The gymnasium, also the tennis, baseball and cricket grounds were well patronized during the summer season. As usual, the gymnasium and baseball grounds were flooded in winter for skating.

CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.

Only the ordinary work of maintenance was required here.

MARINE PARK AND STRANDWAY.

During the hot weather Marine Park and Castle Island are the most popular portions of Boston's system of parks. On the bridge or pier promenades, on the soft turf under the walls of Fort Independence, or under the fine old horsechestnuts and elms of Castle Island, a cooling breeze can always be found. The harbor views, also, are attractive. Many thousands enjoy these advantages on fine Sundays and holidays.

The Strandway drive is now completed, making a continuous drive on well-kept parkways from Marine Park to the



ARNOLD ARBORETUM — LILY POND.

Public Garden, a distance of twelve and one-half miles, passing on the way through Franklin Park, by the Arnold Arboretum, through Olmsted Park, the Riverway and the Fens.

The portion of the Strandway lying between Newman street and the railroad bridge is not yet planted. The ground, however, is prepared and planting will be commenced with the opening of spring. This planting, with the loaming of the railroad slopes and the grading between the walk and the beach, was not done by the Street Department as part of the Strandway construction. An appropriation is needed for this work, also for the erection of a fence on the loam space extending through the section where it is impossible otherwise to protect the trees and shrubbery.

Filling is still being received opposite Newman street. A large part of the newly filled area is now levelled and is used as a playground. This area could be somewhat enlarged were an appropriation made for the removal of the barn and the establishment of an administrative yard on a lot nearby, owned by your department.

CHESTNUT HILL PARK.

The dwelling-house and barn fronting on Commonwealth avenue have been sold and removed, the cellars filled up, and some grading done. From lack of an appropriation, no work has been done toward the development of the land last purchased for the planting of a screen belt.

Large crowds frequent Chestnut Hill Park on Sundays. Tennis, football and baseball fields are furnished on the playground and many enjoy the sports.

FRANKLIN FIELD.

Talbot and Blue Hill Avenues.

(77 Acres.)

Franklin Field, with its forty acres of level field, offers great advantages for sport and is the most popular of the

department's playgrounds. It cannot be termed a local playground; it is a meeting place for contestants in athletic sports from every part of Boston and the surrounding towns. Eighteen or twenty baseball games between regularly organized clubs are frequently played on a Saturday afternoon. Three cricket creases and nineteen tennis courts are also furnished and are much in demand.

The seven or eight acres which were plowed, levelled and seeded last spring, although used during the summer, have a fairly good sod considering the adverse conditions. Another area, of about the same size, of the roughest part of the ground, was turned under by the plow in the fall and will be levelled and seeded next spring. An enlargement of the levelled ground is much needed. A large piece of the nursery will be cleared next spring. An appropriation, however, will be required to get it into suitable condition for play. A building, too, is much needed to serve for sanitary and locker accommodations. At present the players have no facilities for changing or for safe-storing their clothing. An appropriation for the above-mentioned purposes is much needed. The field, as usual, was flooded and used for skating last winter.

CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAYGROUND.

Dorchester Avenue and Park Street.

(5.8 Acres.)

A portion of this playground is furnished with simple apparatus for the use of the children. A female teacher is in charge, and the results have been very satisfactory. Tennis and baseball are popular features of the playground. In the winter a part of the ground is flooded for skating. No work, other than that of maintenance, has been done during the past season.

SAVIN HILL BEACH.

Springdale Street, Dorchester.

(18.6 Acres.)

There is need of further extension of facilities for bathers at this popular resort. We now have eighty-five closets for men and women and two hundred and ten clothing lockers for boys. To relieve overcrowding, plans are in preparation by your department for the erection of a building to contain five hundred and forty-eight lockers for men. This will enable us to turn over the old building of eighty-five closets to the exclusive use of women. The beach is in need of sand. An appropriation for this purpose is desirable. Skating was provided at this playground during the past winter.

NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.

Neponset Avenue.

(18 Acres.)

This is a convenient and popular playground for baseball games. A playground for children was established here two seasons ago. Swings, teeter-boards, tilting-ladders and other simple apparatus were installed, and this part of the playground was placed in charge of a female teacher.

An appropriation is needed for the purchase of loam for levelling the inequalities of the marsh, as the levelled portion is now too small for the demand for baseball diamonds, and preparations for utilizing more of the marsh should be made. A good area of ice for winter skating is provided at this playground.

MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.

Chelsea Street and Mystic River.

(2.3 Acres.)

No work was performed on this playground, except the usual care of the grounds, which contain a children's corner, with apparatus, under the care of a teacher. A baseball diamond is also maintained.

ROGERS PARK.

Lake and Foster Streets.

(6.9 Acres.)

An appropriation is required to place the brook, which runs across the lower end of Rogers Park, underground. This will permit of the enlargement of the levelled area for play, which is a work much needed. It would also be desirable to prepare the ground and to plant trees on the boundaries of the playground. A dam was placed across the outlet of the brook last fall, and a skating pond made.

NORTH BRIGHTON PLAYGROUND.

Western Avenue and Harvard Street.

(14 Acres.)

An extension of the graded area of this playground, to meet the growing demand for ball diamonds, is desirable, and an appropriation for the purchase of loam, to fill up the inequalities of the meadow lands, is required. Trees should be planted on the boundaries of the playground without unnecessary delay. This will require an additional appropriation for the preparation of the ground. The playground is flooded for skating.

BILLINGS FIELD.

La Grange Street, near Centre Street, West Roxbury.

(11 Acres.)

No work except that of maintenance was done at this playground during the past season. Another large sink has developed in the centre of the playground. This is caused by the shifting of the boggy subsoil, over which the original filling was placed. Tennis, baseball and football are the favorite summer games; in winter the ball field is flooded for skating. Shelter and sanitary accommodations are needed.



WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY — BRIDLE PATH

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.

South Walter and Robert Streets.

(3.7 Acres.)

About one hundred linear feet of bleachers have been erected in this playground. A shelter and sanitary building are needed. The playground is very much used, the summer games being tennis and baseball; in winter the field is flooded for skating.

COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAYGROUND.

(5 Acres.)

Here the Civic League bears the expense of kindergarten and athletic instructors, and also of a teacher in gardening work. Provision is made for baseball games, while for boys and small children separate enclosures are provided, in which gymnastic apparatus, sand-boxes, etc., are installed for their use, and many little gardens are cultivated. The grounds are flooded for skating in winter.

PRINCE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Prince and North Bennet Streets.

(0.4 Acre.)

This playground, located in one of the most congested districts, contains teeter-boards, swings, tilting-ladders, etc., with a female teacher in charge. This all too little playground is very much appreciated by the children of the district in which it is located.

FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner of M Street, South Boston.

(4.6 Acres.)

The frame work of the out-door gymnasium was set up during the past season; an appropriation is needed to com-

plete its equipment. The grounds, as usual, were flooded in the winter for skating.

FELLOWS-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Fellows and Hunneman Streets.

(0.85 Acre.)

This playground required only the usual work of maintenance during the past season. It is equipped with simple gymnastic apparatus for children, a female teacher being in charge. A sanitary building is needed.

COTTAGE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Near Maverick Street, East Boston.

(3.85 Acres.)

This playground is much used for baseball, and is flooded in winter for skating. The pressing needs are fencing and sanitary accommodations.

FOREST HILLS AND MT. HOPE PLAYGROUND.

Between Washington and Florence Streets.

(9.6 Acres.)

The drainage of this playground has been much improved by deepening the brook and running a series of tile drains through the lowest parts of the grounds. While the field is in fairly good condition and space can be found for at least three diamonds, an appropriation for grading would largely increase its usefulness. Sanitary accommodations, too, are needed.

MARCELLA-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Marcella and Ritchie Streets.

(4.5 Acres.)

During the past season a contract was made for the removal of the old "Home" building and the erection of a

sanitary and locker building. The sanitariums are completed and are now in regular use. The lockers, however, are not yet constructed. To overcome the steep grade of the playground a retaining-wall, with return wings, was built at the lower end adjoining the yard of the City Sanitary Department, and the entire playground was graded to an average pitch of 27 inches per 100 feet. The grading is now nearly completed. The result is very satisfactory, the new grade being easy and no obstacle to good play, while, at the same time, a large amount of useless space has been made available. This playground is in a populous locality and cannot fail to be of great benefit to a large number.

RANDOLPH-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Albany and Randolph Streets.

(2.8 Acres.)

This playground is located in a populous district and contains facilities for ball playing. Children's gardens border it on three sides. These gardens are protected from flying balls by high expanded-metal fencing, and from wandering dogs and careless feet, on the street side, by low pipe fences, the panels of which are filled with woven wire. Sanitary accommodations were provided during the past season. A children's corner, provided with simple apparatus, occupies one corner of the playground. This is supervised by a female teacher. The grounds are flooded in winter for skating.

COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.

This playground, the fee of which is in the Commonwealth, recently put in our charge, has accommodations for five baseball diamonds. It has also a corner well adapted for a children's playground. Sanitary accommodations for men have been provided during the past season. The grounds are suitable for arrangements for flooding in winter for skating.

SPORTS.

On account of the mildness of the past winter, there was not much opportunity for skating, tobogganing and curling. There was a slight falling off in golf attendance during the season, the number being 28,000 against 32,000 of last year. Tennis was very popular. Baseball, as usual, took the lead ; of all sports it seems to be the favorite and to retain its hold the longest. The demand for football grounds was greater than ever before.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW,
Superintendent.



ARNOLD ARBORETUM—BLUE HILLS FROM BUSSEY HILL.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION IN CHARGE OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

Boston, January 17, 1906.

To the Board of Park Commissioners :

GENTLEMEN,—Our report for this, the fifteenth year of our superintendence at Charlesbank, presents no new features of special value. The everyday occurrences among the women and children, who pass so many of their hours at the lodge, on the green or in the gymnasium, though of interest to us, have not sufficient importance for a public record. Yet it is in the management of such trivial incidents that we find encouragement for the friendly supervision we give.

The numbers in attendance have been surprisingly good when the inconveniences connected with reaching the lodge are remembered. Before another season it is expected that they will be done away with by the completion of the bridge and the laying of the big sewer, when the place again will be in order.

Miss Cutler, the superintendent, was assisted through the summer by Miss Mary J. Price, who won the love of the children, interested them in their games and was skilful as teacher of gymnastics.

With the closing of the autumn work in October, Miss Cutler's resignation, which was tendered several months previously, took effect. She has been the devoted, efficient, wise superintendent for many years, giving a personal attention to the children that greatly benefited their health and their

character. Her sincerity enforced the value of her discipline, while her cordiality made the children feel at ease with her. She has left to the lodge the many books she had collected as reading matter for the women and girls, also numerous games, scrap and picture books.

Owing to the difficulty of access, the evening classes have been discontinued for the winter. The lodge, however, with its big upper playroom, is open every afternoon for several hours, and in the autumn and spring there is much time which the children can spend on the playground. Miss Emma A. Phelps, who so often has acted as vacation superintendent, is in sole charge of this daily afternoon care of the children.

Respectfully submitted,

KATE GANNETT WELLS,

ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS.

For the Committee.

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1905-1906.

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATION.	Balances, January 31, 1906.	Appropriations and Transfers, 1905-1906.	Total Credits.	Expenditures, 1905-1906.	Balances, January 31, 1906.
Park Department, maintenance.	.....	* \$241,549 16	\$241,549 16	\$241,549 16	\$731 25
Public Parks, land and construction.	\$273 79	2,040 54	2,314 33	1,583 08	
Chestnut Hill Park.	15 64	.....	15 64	1 15 64	
Playgrounds	2,496 80	.....	2,496 80	2,496 80	
Speedway, Franklin Field.	634 92	.....	634 92	634 92	
Columbia Road.	.....	3,861 23	3,861 23	† 3,861 23	
Strandway.	18 33	18,000 00	18,018 33	12,681 00	837 33
Playground, Ward 22.	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	10,616 49	19,383 51
Wood Island Park, shelter and sanitary building.	601 55	.....	601 55	2 601 55	
Castle Island, sanitary building.	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.	3,526 86	.....	3,526 86	2,720 25	806 61
Mystic Playground, gymnastic apparatus.	622 31	.....	622 31	2 622 31	
Columbus-avenue Playground, sanitary building.	3,034 23	.....	3,034 23	3,034 23	
Ashmont Playground, grading, etc.	221 81	.....	221 81	221 81	
Playground, Wards 7 and 9.	237,296 67	.....	237,296 67	4,727 16	232,568 51
Commonwealth Playground.	.....	10,000 00	10,000 00	1,604 77	8,395 23
	\$281,741 91	\$270,450 93	\$552,192 84	\$286,970 40	\$265,222 44

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$5,949.86.

† Expended by Street Department and charged to Highway loan (issued as Public Park loan) under Stat. 1897, Chap. 819.

‡ Transferred to Public Parks.

§ \$211.82 of this transferred to Public Parks.

|| \$413.58 of this transferred to Public Parks.

Expenditures on Account of Land and Constructi

	Roads and Walks.	Drainage.	Grading.	Gener Work
The Fens.....	\$98 00	.....	.....	.....
Olmsted Park.....	115 00	.....	.....	.....
Arborway .....		.....	.....	.....
Franklin Park .....		.....	.....	.....
Columbia Road.....	3,861 23	.....	.....	.....
Strandway.....		.....	.....	.....
Wood Island Park.....	5 00	.....	\$24 00	.....
Charlestown Playground.....		\$127 70	2,275 49	.....
Franklin Field.....	634 92	.....	.....	.....
Mystic Playground.....		.....	206 07	.....
Columbus-avenue Playground.....		.....	24 55	.....
Ashmont Playground.....		.....	221 81	.....
Rogers Park.....		.....	90 89	.....
Randolph-street Playground.....		34 85	.....	\$6 0
Commonwealth Playground.....		29 10	371 37	.....
Playgrounds.....		.....	.....	.....
Marcella-street Playground.....		1 50	4,129 91	.....
Totals.....	\$4,709 15	\$193 15	\$7,344 09	\$6 0

* This amount was expended by Street Department, being proporti

from February 1, 1905, to January 31, 1906.

Stations.	Water Supply.	Buildings.	Gymnasium Apparatus and Fences.	Walls.	Land and Expenses.	Totals.
.....	\$910 12	.....	\$1,003 12
.....	115 00
\$70 75	70 75
213 19	\$39 88	.....	.....	.....	252 57
.....	*8,861 23
.....	\$12,681 00	12,681 00
411 98	440 98
.....	\$317 06	.....	.....	2,720 25
.....	634 92
.....	2 66	.....	.....	208 73
.....	5,504 48	.....	5,529 03
.....	221 81
.....	90 89
.....	4,299 15	387 16	.....	.....	4,727 16
.....	\$50 05	1,087 64	66 61	.....	.....	1,804 77
.....	2 00	2 00
.....	90 00	2,763 09	28 25	3,603 74	.....	10,616 49
\$695 92	\$140 05	\$8,189 26	\$301 74	\$10,018 34	\$12,683 00	\$44,780 70

*Highway loan, issued as Public Park loan, under Chap. 819, Acts of 1897.

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance of

	Roads.	Walks.	Grounds.	Buildings
Commonwealth Avenue.....	\$14,096 24	\$1,411 94	\$4,885 72	.....
The Fens.....	6,497 60	358 33	9,420 75	\$570
Riverway.....	7,175 83	368 24	5,506 73	1,370
Olmsted Park.....	5,838 43	575 12	12,551 58	1,838
Arborway.....	4,593 26	163 80	4,496 94	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....	4,139 76	336 59	.....	447
West Roxbury Parkway.....	.....	.....	924 67	17
Franklin Park.....	11,063 23	1,324 94	32,749 86	8,827
Columbia Road.....	5,043 48	276 91	1,721 88	.....
Strandway.....	1,122 17	92 55	2,998 04	26
Marine Park.....	1,081 10	1,857 84	4,209 80	1,273
Wood Island Park.....	37 50	139 67	3,227 97	687
Charlesbank.....	.....	198 37	3,560 54	.....
Charlestown Heights.....	.....	238 69	1,744 43	485
Charlestown Playground.....	.....	76 72	971 28	.....
Dorchester Park.....	.....	2 00	1,255 15	.....
Franklin Field.....	472 34	.....	4,111 71	639
Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.....	.....	372 75	.....
Chestnut Hill Park.....	1,242 69	54 42	4,574 63	.....
North Brighton Playground.....	.....	25 50	614 60	.....
Neponset Playground.....	.....	16 00	714 06	394
Billings Field.....	.....	2 00	800 71	.....
First-street Playground.....	.....	10 91	668 62	999
Prince-street Playground.....	.....	.....	620 78	.....
Mystic Playground.....	.....	32 00	384 36	.....
Fellows-street Playground.....	.....	7 86	356 93	.....
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	.....	20 00	695 24	630
Columbus-avenue Playground.....	.....	37 66	4,698 98	.....
Ashmont Playground.....	.....	.....	685 11	.....
Savin Hill Playground.....	.....	.....	850 63	.....
Roslindale Playground.....	.....	8 00	638 74	.....
Forest Hills Playground.....	.....	.....	790 20	.....
Rogers Park.....	.....	.....	1,207 62	.....
Oak Square.....	.....	.....	24 67	.....
Cottage-street Playground, Ward 2....	.....	.....	590 85	.....
Randolph-street Playground.....	.....	11 25	1,024 59	443
Marcella-street Playground.....	.....	2 25	1,529 94	464
Office Expense.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commonwealth Park.....	.....	.....	38 73	.....
Miscellaneous.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	\$62,403 63	\$7,649 56	\$116,219 79	\$19,217 2

February 1, 1905, to January 31, 1906.

Salvage.	General Work.	Sheep and Water Fowl.	Skating.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Office Expense.	Totals.
	\$365 30						\$20,759 20
	878 55	\$57 79					17,883 80
	394 61						14,815 92
	485 17	385 15	\$701 95				22,376 26
	350 00						9,604 00
\$576 09	388 80						5,888 68
							942 42
	924 59	730 88	385 72				56,006 94
							7,042 27
	350 00		511 23				5,099 99
	415 20						8,837 62
	350 00		425 50	\$2,797 54			7,665 25
	411 92		79 71	3,175 69	\$1,532 15		8,958 38
							2,468 52
			388 77				1,436 77
			19 28				1,276 43
		1,369 60	1,446 04				8,038 79
							372 75
							5,871 74
			609 24				1,249 34
2 00			96 32	165 96			1,889 27
			125 43				928 14
			298 81	4 00			1,982 29
					246 63		867 41
					361 61		777 97
					298 74		663 53
			101 67		226 47		1,678 51
208 00			89 16		105 52		5,189 32
			26 04				711 15
			210 71				1,061 84
			196 78				843 52
339 05							1,129 25
			23 29				1,230 91
							24 67
63 50			273 91				928 26
			282 90	187 64			1,949 54
							1,996 98
						\$9,795 97	9,795 97
			1 50				40 23
	2,321 83						2,321 83
1,188 64	\$7,134 97	\$2,543 42	\$6,293 96	\$6,330 83	\$2,771 12	\$9,795 97	\$241,549 16

Park Statistics to January 31, 1906.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	COST TO DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i> .....	.....	\$5,638,985 19	\$8,947,688 90	\$14,606,674 09	1,788.60 acres	41.80 miles	60.65 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres
" Castle Island.....	1890	.....	32,685 55	32,685 55	25.7 " land 78.3 " flats	.....	.....	.....	.....
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1893 and 1901	182,800 00	259,278 53	392,078 53	55.6 " land 156.4 " flats	0.3 mile	2.1 "	.....	.....
CHARLESBANK.....	1893	873,916 99	313,448 13	687,365 12	10 acres	.....	1.5 "	.....	.....
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.12 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 56	153,645 58	6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats	.....	0.4 mile	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.	1891	172,923 31	22,086 40	195,009 71	14 " land 4 " flats	.....	0.6 "	.....	.....
DORCHESTER PARK	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,531 18	77,726 55	26 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	118,698 90	276,038 12	77 "	0.35 mile	0.35 "	.....	.....
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	328,364 44	169,263 27	497,628 71	8.7 " land 3 " flats	.....	.....	.....	.....
COPP'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,588 19	32,001 45	122,589 65	0.6 acre	.....	0.11 "	.....	.....
* CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	1893, 1899 and 1902	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	.....	.....	.....
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND	1894	22,107 12	10,601 77	32,708 89	14 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
* NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 29	16,189 35	40,993 74	18 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
BILLINGS FIELD	1896	47,068 98	16,758 00	63,826 98	11 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
§ FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND.	1897	.....	26,340 40	26,340 40	4.6 "	.....	0.4 "	.....	.....
= FERRYPORT-STREET TRI- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Carried forward</i>.....	.....	\$7,394,112 28	\$10,088,561 00	\$17,482,703 28	2,304.42 acres	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1906. — Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	COST TO DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Bides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$7,364,112 28	\$10,068,591 00	\$17,432,703 28	2,304.42 acres	43.35 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres
PRINCE-STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	{ 1897, 1899 and 1901 }	180,474 70	484 07	180,958 77	0.4 acre				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,195 00	3,804 41	53,999 41	2.3 acres				
*FELLOW-STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	14,503 73	5,014 87	19,518 59	0.85 acre				
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{ 1899, 1900 1901, 1902 }	237,503 84	18,581 26	346,085 10	5 "				
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,590 09	4,000 00	47,590 09	2.2 "				
SAVIN HILL PLAYGROUND....	1899	27,147 80	6,199 00	33,346 80	{ 6.9 acres land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND....	1899	24,825 11	5,992 71	30,817 82	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND..	1902	25,168 75	.....	25,168 75	2.6 "				
COTTAGE-STREET PLAY- GROUND, WARD 2.....	1902	47,002 23	2,997 68	50,000 00	3.85 "				
*RANDOLPH-ST. PLAYGROUND,	1905	43,635 00	23,806 49	67,431 49	2.8 "				
MARCELLA-ST. PLAYGROUND,	1905	.....	11,271 77	11,271 77	5.1 "				
*ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	3,779 27	33,779 27	6.9 "				
<i>Carried forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,190,185 69	\$10,169,394 60	\$18,359,580 29	2,359.66 acres	43.35 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1906. — Concluded.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.		Area.	Length of Drive- ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,190,185 69	\$10,169,394 60	2,359.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	195.4 acres
1 BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	1.2 "				
4 OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	0.22 acre				
1 COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905	.....	1,604 77	8.07 "				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGAT- ING SITES.....	.....	245 29	.....	.....		
General account.....	.....	\$8,220,430 98	\$10,187,027 45	\$18,407,458 43				
Park Nursery.....	.....	.....	73,987 50	73,987 50				
Betterment Expenses.....	.....	.....	29,947 07	29,947 07				
	.....	.....	13,356 10	13,356 10				
	.....	\$8,220,430 98	\$10,304,318 12	\$18,524,749 10	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	195.4 acres

* The lands in these parks and playgrounds have not been paid for in full.

† An additional area of 164 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ An additional area of 13 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

§ 49 acres transferred from water department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

¶ Custody given to city by Act of Congress.

== Transferred to Street Department.

1 95,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

2 Transferred from, and \$50,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

3 Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

4 Transferred from School Department.

5 Custody given to City by Stat. 1891, Chap. 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks, and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 4.08 miles, 59.3 miles, and 6.3 miles.

City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1907



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1907

the 1990s, the number of people with a diagnosis of schizophrenia has increased by 20% (Meltzer 1995). The prevalence of schizophrenia is estimated to be 1% of the population (Meltzer 1995).

There is a growing awareness of the need to provide a range of services to people with mental health problems, including the development of new services to meet the needs of people with severe mental illness (Meltzer 1995). The development of new services is a complex task, and it is essential that the needs of the people who will be using the services are taken into account.

The needs of people with severe mental illness are complex and varied. They may have a range of physical and mental health problems, and they may have a range of social and economic problems. It is essential that the services provided to these people are able to meet their needs in a holistic way.

The development of new services for people with severe mental illness is a complex task, and it is essential that the needs of the people who will be using the services are taken into account. The development of new services is a complex task, and it is essential that the needs of the people who will be using the services are taken into account.

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City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1907



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1907





THE FENS, NEAR HUNTINGTON ENTRANCE.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,

Mayor of the City of Boston :

SIR, — Little has been done during the year outside of the ordinary park and playground maintenance. The only addition to the park area is 4,422 square feet of rocky ledge on the westerly boundary of Franklin Park, the whole ledge now being within the park lines.

The work of adapting the new lines of the Huntington-avenue entrance and the Art Museum lot to the roads and reservations of the Fens, which was under way last year, was completed in October. This reconstruction was done under an agreement with the Trustees of the Art Museum, whereby the changes were made by them, without expense to the city.

The advent of the gypsy and brown-tail moths has added a good deal to the labor and responsibility of the department. These pests have spread to such an extent that no part of the city is now free from them. Their destructive powers are so great that, unless repressive measures are steadily maintained, they are, where infestations occur, capable of destroying all tree life in two or three years.

These insects are of foreign origin, and they increase at a tremendous rate when transplanted into new fields. In the countries from which these moths have been introduced they are held in check by parasitical insects, so that their ravages are not so noticeable as those of the tent caterpillar here. The authorities of the State are now importing parasites that prey upon the moths, in the effort to restore Nature's balance

in the most practical way. Until this is accomplished the trees of the city can only be saved from destruction by spraying their foliage with poisonous solutions in summer and destroying the nests and eggs of the moths in winter. These measures have been diligently employed in the Park Department, and as a result no appreciable damage has been done by the moths on the territory under our control.

The dust nuisance has been greatly increased since automobile travel has become so popular. In the effort to combat this, an emulsion of crude petroleum was applied last season to about twelve miles of roadway. The experiment proved successful, in that the dust was laid perfectly on the roads treated, for two months, at a cost little exceeding that of watering.

The method employed has disclosed other advantages in its favor: the dust was laid both night and day, a soft brown color was imparted to the road, the road surface was made more elastic and pleasanter to travel upon, and a saving in the wear and tear of the roads was noticeable. We are now extending its use, believing that it will be much more efficient than ordinary watering, and but little more expensive. We have received but little complaint of the smell, and we are sure that the public considers it preferable to the dust.

Playground extension is one of the most important parts of the work of this department, and we are glad to be able to report the addition to our list of playgrounds of one in the Fens of twelve and one-half acres. This playground has been made at little cost by filling a part of the Fens basin and raising the grade of the adjoining salt meadows. An appropriation for some needed fencing and grading will make it available for winter skating as well as for summer games. The playground is being used now, although it is still in the rough. It will serve as a convenient playground for Wards 10, 18 and 19.

Roxbury and Jamaica Plain are the districts at present most in need of playgrounds of the larger size, where boys

and young men can play baseball. A greater need, however, is for small neighborhood playgrounds for children. Large boys and young men can, on their wheels or at small cost, reach more distant playgrounds, while children can at most go only a block or two away from home. Small playgrounds of half an acre or less, well placed through the more populous parts of the city, under the charge of suitable female instructors, would greatly supplement school work in the education of the young.

Franklin Field, although it has forty acres of levelled ground suitable for play, is now too small for the demand made upon it on Saturday afternoons and holidays. It lacks, too, entirely in locker and shelter accommodation. The remaining thirty-four acres of the field should now be graded and a locker building erected to meet the increasing demand for its use.

Franklin Field, as a playground, is a grand success. Its use is not confined to the residents of any particular district, but it is constantly used by residents of all sections.

No better use of city funds can be made than for the purchase of new playgrounds, and no citizen of Boston can make a better gift to his fellow citizens or one of more enduring value to many generations than a playground.

The operations of the department in detail for the year are shown in the subjoined report of our valued Superintendent.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. STRATTON,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY,

Commissioners.

Boston, January 31, 1907.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO CHARLES E. STRATTON, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST AND
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners* :

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit a report of the work performed under the direction of your board during the year 1906.

FRANKLIN PARK.

To meet the increasing needs of the department the old blacksmith's shop at the service yard was equipped as a stable for ten horses. Offices for the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent and the general timekeeper were fitted up in the upper story of the new storage building. A new storeroom, conveniently arranged for the quick handling of tools and more valuable stores, was made in the lower story of the building. These accommodations were much needed and will greatly facilitate the work of the department. New walks were constructed in Long Crouch Woods, extending from the corner of Walnut avenue and Seaver street to a point nearly opposite Humboldt avenue, with two branches, one leading to the golf links and the other to Seaver street near the proposed site of the sanitary building.

THE FENS.

The changes in the roads, walks, etc., consequent on the exchange of land with the Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts, have been completed, with the exception of the planting, which will be done in the spring.

The filling of the Fens' playground has been continued.

This is now nearly completed. All suitable material offered is being received for the purpose of raising the surface and grading it to a basin-like form for flooding in winter for skating and other sports. An appropriation is needed for fencing and grading, and for a convenient bridge, before the playground can be opened for public use.

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE.

The work of repairing that part of Commonwealth avenue between Beacon street and the Newton line, recently placed under the care of your department, was commenced early last spring. From the grinding of fast automobile travel the roadways were in many places reduced to the condition of loose stone piles. Four steam rollers were used in the work, which was rapidly pushed until one continuous roadway between Warren street and the Newton line had been completely resurfaced, as also one continuous piece lying between Essex street and Brighton avenue.

Much work was also done in edging turf spaces and in a general cleaning up. From lack of means no preparation could be made for planting trees — a very necessary improvement — and for the same reason road repairing was suspended.

CHARLESBANK.

The construction of the marginal conduit by the Charles River Basin Commission having been completed, your department relaid the walk and did some preliminary grading. A general relocation of the crosswalks opposite the abutting streets, however, is necessary. Until this can be done and the Charles-street fence is extended, the work cannot be satisfactorily completed. For the extension of the fence an appropriation is needed.

A report on the work of the women's division, prepared by a committee of the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association, will be found elsewhere in this report.

WOOD ISLAND PARK.

The trees at this popular outing place continue to grow vigorously; the shade they now afford is fully appreciated by the thousands who frequent the park. Repairs and an extension of the tennis grounds were made here last season. The sanitary and locker house is much in need of repairs caused by settlements in the foundations. For this an appropriation is needed.

Athletic work in the gymnasium, skating, tennis, baseball and cricket are popular sports at this park.

CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.

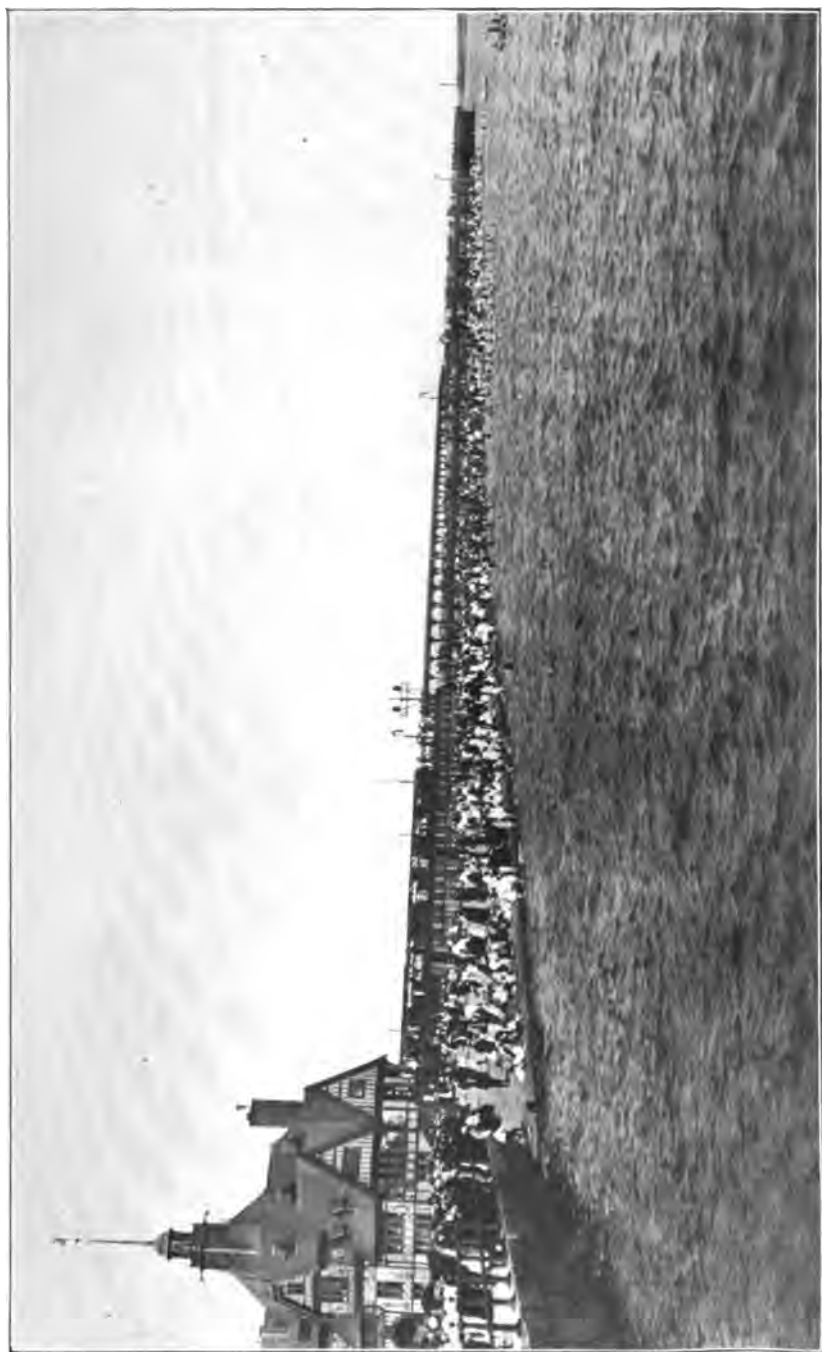
Charlestown Heights required only the ordinary work of maintenance.

MARINE PARK, CASTLE ISLAND AND THE STRANDWAY.

Marine Park and Castle Island received only the usual maintenance care. A steamboat service between the two places was conducted on regular schedule time. At Castle Island landing dredging is required to permit of the use of larger boats.

The loam space between the drive and the street lying between Newman street and the railroad bridge was planted last spring; this completed the planting of the Strandway. Considerable fencing was erected in the planting space near Newman street and at the L-street bathhouse, in the effort to stop indiscriminate travel across and through the shrubbery. It has been fairly effective, and much less damage is now done.

The work of filling the playground opposite Newman street has steadily progressed, and a considerable addition to the playground has been made thereby. A part of the newly filled ground has been graded and equipped with apparatus for the use of children. An appropriation is needed for fencing the children's playground. Sanitary accommodations



MARINE PARK — PIER AND BATHING-BEACH.



are also needed for both sections of the playground ; this may be provided in one building. The grounds are flooded for skating in winter and are much used.

CHESTNUT HILL PARK.

An appropriation is needed for the grading, loaming and planting of the newly acquired land on the north boundary of Chestnut Hill Park. The border of the park is insufficiently screened at this point, and delay in planting means delay in the execution of the purpose for which the land was purchased ; it would be well if provision could be made at once for doing the work. Of trees and shrubs for planting the ground we have an abundance in our nursery.

On Sundays and holidays Chestnut Hill Park continues to be a favorite breathing place for thousands of people who come mostly from the crowded tenement districts of the city. The ball field and tennis courts, too, are much used.

PLANTATIONS.

The plantations of young trees made generally throughout the Park Department during the past nine years have made excellent growth. The trees were planted thickly and thinned out each winter as growth progressed ; they now range from ten to twenty-five feet in height. Although the results have been satisfactory, better results could have been secured had there been sufficient funds available for a more thorough cultivation and fertilization. The many pieces of ground prepared during the winter of 1905-06 were planted last spring, principally with oaks. For general planting in the parks the oak is proving to be the most satisfactory and adaptable tree ; even at Wood Island and Marine parks, where we have conditions of the greatest exposure to the sea, they hold their own equally well with elms, lindens, poplars and willows.

The usual work of cutting out overcrowding and debilitated trees was done. Although this work has been prose-

larger accommodation, which has been felt for the past two years. Skating was provided this winter as in the past. A needed improvement is the filling of the marsh for a playground; sand for the beach is also needed.

NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.

Neponset Avenue.

(18 Acres.)

Neponset playground was used for baseball and for skating. A children's corner is also established in charge of a female teacher. This playground needs filling for extending the usable area.

MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.

Chelsea Street and Mystic River.

(2.3 Acres.)

In Mystic playground the children's corner, in charge of a female teacher, is popular, and so is the baseball diamond. Sanitary accommodations are needed here.

ROGERS PARK.

Lake and Foster Streets.

(6.9 Acres.)

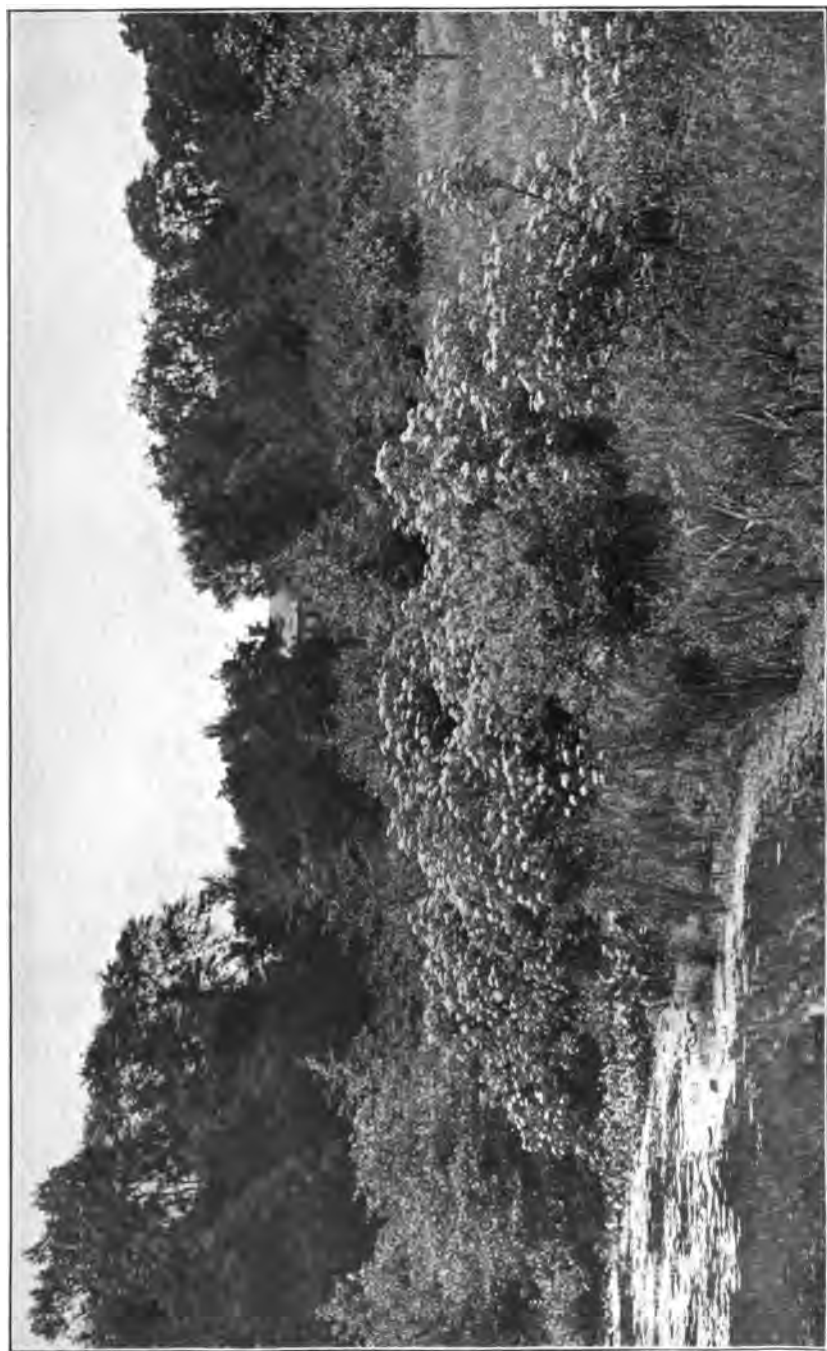
Rogers Park contains facilities for ball playing and a small skating area. An appropriation is needed for carrying a small brook under the ground in a conduit, to permit of an enlargement of the area for sports; planting of the borders, too, should be provided for. Sanitary accommodations are lacking.

NORTH BRIGHTON PLAYGROUND.

Western Avenue and Harvard Street.

(14 Acres.)

A good opportunity is presented here for a fine playground. Material is needed for grading the surface, and the borders



ARNOLD ARBORETUM — MARGIN OF LILY POND.

of the ground require preparation and planting with trees. Fencing would be desirable. At present accommodations are provided for ball playing, quoiting and skating. A sanitary building is needed.

BILLINGS FIELD.

La Grange Street, near Centre Street, West Roxbury.

(11 Acres.)

During last winter the settlement in the centre of this playground was partially filled with ashes by the City Sanitary Department. These settlements, due to the underlying peat, which yields unequally under the pressure of the filling used in grading, interfere materially with the full use of the ground. More filling and a new system of drainage are necessary to correct this. Tennis, baseball, football and skating are the sports provided at this playground.

A vacated police station, facing Centre street, has been turned over to the Park Department, in which it would be desirable to install sanitary accommodations, which are much needed.

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.

South Walter and Robert Streets.

(3.7 Acres.)

This playground furnishes accommodations for baseball, tennis, football and skating. A sanitary building is needed.

COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAYGROUND.

(5 Acres.)

This playground is turned over to the control and direction of the Civic League, the Park Department maintaining the grounds and ice field.

PRINCE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Prince and North Bennet Streets.

(0.4 Acre.)

In this little playground swings, teeters and other simple apparatus are maintained for the children of the extremely

populous district in which it is located. A female teacher is in charge.

FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner of M Street, South Boston.

(4.6 Acres.)

From lack of funds the out-door gymnasium is not yet completed. The sports here include baseball and football and skating in winter.

FELLOWS-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Fellows and Hunneman Streets.

(0.85 Acre.)

Equipped with apparatus for children, with a female teacher in charge. Sanitary accommodations are needed.

COTTAGE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Near Maverick Street, East Boston.

(3.85 Acres.)

This playground is fitted up for baseball, football, skating and quoiting. An appropriation is needed for fencing and for sanitary accommodations.

FOREST HILLS AND MT. HOPE PLAYGROUND.

Between Washington and Florence Streets.

(9.6 Acres.)

This fine piece of ground, which is in fair condition for use, could be much improved by a little grading. A sanitary building is needed. The playground is equipped with three baseball diamonds.

MARCELLA-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner Ritchie Street.

(4.5 Acres.)

This playground has been largely used during the past season. It contains three baseball diamonds. The locker

room in the building has not yet been fitted with lockers. A 10-foot expanded metal fence is needed around a portion of the grounds to stop driven balls from going over into the streets and adjoining property.

RANDOLPH-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Albany and Randolph Streets.

(2.8 Acres.)

This playground is very much used. It contains baseball diamonds and a children's corner, where apparatus is installed for children. A female teacher is in charge. The building standing on the grounds when purchased has been fitted up for basket-ball, on the lower floor; its upper floor is now being fitted up for a children's in-door gymnasium.

COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.

C, D and Cypher Streets, South Boston.

(8.07 Acres.)

Filling and grading has been in progress on this playground during the past season, without, however, interfering much with its use by ball players. It is being graded, as is our practice in the grading of playgrounds, in a saucer form to flood for skating in winter.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW,

Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION IN CHARGE OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

Boston, January 12, 1907.

To the Board of Park Commissioners :

GENTLEMEN, — The past year, the sixteenth of our supervision at Charlesbank, has been one of unusual pleasure, for the happiness and at-home feeling of the children has been strongly in evidence. Their little bows and courtesies on entering and leaving the classes, their shy friendliness or their more boisterous regard has proved their affection for the city enclosure, which to so many of them is the only steady summer resort they know. The more the population in that part of Boston has changed in nationality the plainer has become the hygienic and moral necessity for just such a playground as Charlesbank affords.

The number in attendance from April 23 to October 18 1906, inclusive, has been 182,650. There have been 13 gymnastic classes for women and 11 for children, the latter far outnumbering the former, who, however, came regularly, and some of them from long distances. The lessons consisted of free standing exercises, apparatus work and dancing steps, save as the children had gymnastic and other games instead of apparatus work, which was familiar to them through their every-day fun and exercise upon the trapezes, parallel bars, etc. Relay races, cat and rat, dodge and medicine ball, London bridge, ring toss were the favorites as games.

Given as harmless but encouraging prizes for good behavior were worsted balls, skating caps and capes, paper dolls, raffia mats, etc., all made by the Superintendent and her assistants from the chance contributions of friends.



OLMSTED PARK—SWANS AT JAMAICA POND.

The number of baths taken, though far from what is desired, was yet in excess of previous summer seasons, numbering 3,824. A spray bath after all is not as much sport as a free public bath in a large tank, but it may be quite as conducive to health when soap is freely added, as at Charlesbank.

The mothers and babies constitute an important part of Charlesbank population, as they picnic on the grass with newspapers for tablecloths, or take magazines outdoors from the huge box of reading matter kindly sent by friends.

We are very fortunate in the Superintendent, Miss Miriam Harris, who has sole charge during the summer vacation of the public schools, when Miss Mary Jewett Price is assistant superintendent, and on Saturdays in the early spring and in the autumn, when Miss Emma Phelps has that position.

During the winter of 1905 and 1906, owing to the unfinished condition of the bridge, there were no evening classes. Yet each afternoon and all day on Saturdays the big playroom of the Lodge was open for any who sought its shelter and amusement, with Miss Phelps in charge. There is no limit to the making of puzzles and dissected maps and to the capacity for perpetual swinging. Owing to the same reasons which operated last year, the Lodge again is open this winter, 1906 and 1907, only to the same limited extent.

But a playroom is a far better resort than a street, and its slight cost of maintenance is largely offset by the strong moral influence acquired over the children through the presence of the same teachers and friends all the year round. We look forward with pleasure to the time when, with improved lighting of the room, we shall be able to resume the evening classes for women.

Respectfully submitted,

KATE GANNETT WELLS,

ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS,

For the Committee.

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1906-1907.

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATION.	Balances January 31, 1906.	Appropriations and Transfers, 1906-1907.	Total Credits.	Expenditures, 1906-1907.	Balances January 31, 1907.
Park Department, maintenance.....	.....	* \$340,915 48	\$340,915 48	\$340,915 48	
Public Parks, land and construction.....	\$731 25	700 00	1,431 25	1,431 25	
Strandway.....	337 33	6,600 00	6,937 33	6,937 33	\$2,067 82
Playground, Ward 22.....	19,383 51	.....	19,383 51	17,815 69	3,000 00
Castle Island, sanitary building.....	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00	.....
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.....	806 61	.....	806 61	806 61	
Playground, Wards 7 and 9.....	232,568 51	.....	232,568 51	213,148 26	19,420 25
Commonwealth Playground.....	8,395 23	.....	8,395 23	3,599 60	4,795 63
	\$265,222 44	\$348,215 48	\$613,437 92	\$584,154 22	\$29,233 70

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$5,812.36.

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction, from February 1, 1906, to January 31, 1907.

	Drainage.	Grading.	Plantations.	Water Supply.	Buildings.	Gymnasium Apparatus and Fences.	Walls.	Land and Expenses.	Totals.
Olmsted Park.....	.....	.....	\$14 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$14 00
Arboreway .....	.....	.....	348 90	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	348 90
Franklin Park.....	.....	.....	214 06	.....	\$80 45	.....	.....	\$700 00	994 51
Strandway.....	.....	\$2,110 72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,826 61	6,937 33
Charlestown Playground....	.....	162 20	.....	.....	.....	\$644 41	.....	.....	806 61
Rogers Park .....	.....	73 84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73 84
Randolph-street Playground,	.....	11 00	.....	.....	\$21 63	.....	.....	212,815 63	213,148 26
Commonwealth Playground,	\$590 47	2,916 60	.....	\$14 49	78 04	.....	.....	.....	3,599 60
Marcella-street Playground,	311 90	10,310 86	.....	8 00	2,568 47	94 12	\$4,022 34	.....	17,815 69
Totals	\$902 37	\$15,585 22	\$576 96	\$22 49	\$3,048 59	\$738 53	\$4,022 34	\$218,842 24	\$243,238 74

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance from

PARKS.	Roads.	Walks.	Grounds.	Buildings.
Commonwealth Avenue.....	\$54,070 19	\$1,560 60	\$5,058 46	.....
The Fens.....	10,125 63	480 46	15,484 82	\$926 60
Riverway.....	8,008 70	182 64	7,456 88	1,843 93
Olmsted Park.....	6,984 29	526 47	15,708 28	2,244 00
Arborway.....	6,267 99	136 10	4,856 31	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....	8,751 45	314 95	.....	378 97
West Roxbury Parkway.....	7 00	.....	915 37	12 00
Franklin Park.....	10,066 12	4,983 88	33,012 05	11,689 03
Columbia Road.....	7,794 27	231 40	951 49	.....
Strandway.....	3,315 16	239 75	7,542 10	.....
Marine Park.....	1,353 55	688 03	5,420 55	1,404 76
Wood Island Park.....	82 55	194 00	3,771 39	949 85
Charlesbank.....	.....	2,199 19	3,856 50	.....
Trinity Triangle.....	.....	1 25	.....	.....
Charlestown Heights.....	.....	324 88	2,027 40	549 04
Charlestown Playground.....	.....	73 89	1,248 50	.....
Dorchester Park.....	.....	.....	1,717 97	.....
Franklin Field.....	146 12	.....	4,109 54	1,080 59
Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.....	.....	453 25	.....
Chestnut Hill Park.....	1,336 16	120 27	5,437 25	.....
North Brighton Playground.....	.....	18 24	1,164 57	.....
Neponset Playground.....	.....	8 00	629 36	337 61
Billings Field.....	.....	.....	854 57	.....
First-street Playground.....	.....	10 50	980 14	1,145 21
Prince-street Playground.....	.....	.....	779 27	.....
Mystic Playground.....	.....	35 00	772 08	.....
Fellows-street Playground.....	.....	5 50	579 29	.....
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	.....	10 00	671 55	531 69
Columbus-avenue Playground.....	.....	17 06	1,983 42	.....
Ashmont Playground.....	.....	4 00	854 53	.....
Savin Hill Playground.....	.....	.....	952 68	6,339 72
Roslindale Playground.....	.....	4 00	661 04	.....
Forest Hills Playground.....	.....	.....	541 81	.....
Rogers Park.....	.....	38 50	1,434 44	.....
Oak Square.....	.....	.....	19 50	.....
Cottage-street Playground, Ward 2.....	.....	361 87	599 87	.....
Randolph-street Playground.....	.....	12 00	792 69	483 82
Marcella-street Playground.....	.....	19 74	2,422 93	573 72
Commonwealth Park.....	.....	.....	517 81	8 00
Office Expense.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous.....	.....	.....	15,363 78	.....
	\$113,254 18	\$12,752 17	\$151,597 89	\$29,993 54

February 1, 1906, to January 31, 1907.

Drainage.	Walls.	Sheep and Water Fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Office Expense.	Totals.
							\$60,689 25
		\$44 35	\$32 36				27,093 72
							16,987 15
		422 16	358 46				26,188 66
							11,260 40
\$484 81	\$2,838 96						7,769 14
							934 37
		1,446 72	1,935 29				63,133 09
							8,977 16
			159 41		\$144 12		11,400 54
			51 39				8,868 28
			1,188 43	\$2,417 17			8,608 39
			66 80	3,296 67	2,075 58		11,494 74
							1 25
							2,901 32
			455 08		111 20		1,888 67
			6 39				1,724 36
		1,092 76	811 59				7,240 60
							453 25
							6,893 68
			186 22				1,369 03
			133 90		204 36		1,313 23
			140 34				994 91
			191 31		111 20		2,438 36
					261 31		1,040 58
			18 50		287 14		1,112 67
			3 50		340 04		928 33
			142 52		221 70		1,577 46
			212 32		22 22		2,235 02
			82 07				940 60
232 45			1,313 84				8,838 69
			128 07				793 11
			4 50				546 31
			65 40				1,538 34
							19 50
			210 64				1,172 38
			92 33		281 85		1,663 19
			1 99				3,018 38
			34 67				555 48
						\$3,953 11	8,953 11
							15,363 78
\$717 26	\$2,838 96	\$3,005 99	\$3,027 82	\$5,713 84	\$4,060 72	\$3,953 11	\$340,915 48

Park Statistics to January 31, 1907. — Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	COST TO DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$5,064,511 80	\$8,950,407 03	\$14,014,918 83	1,737.60 acres	41.80 miles	60.65 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres
† Castle Island.....	1890	.....	32,635 55	32,635 55	{ 25.7 " land 79.3 " flats	{ 0.3 mile	2.1 "		
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1893 and 1891	132,800 00	259,373 53	392,073 53	{ 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats	.....	1.5 "		
CHARLES BANK.....	1863	373,916 99	313,448 13	687,365 12	10 acres	.....		
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1865	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.13 acre	.....		
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 53	153,645 53	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats	.....	0.4 mile		
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND,	1891	173,923 31	23,822 01	195,515 32	{ 14 " land 4 " flats	.....	0.6 "		
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	26 "	.....		
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	118,696 90	276,038 12	77 "	0.35 mile	0.35 "		
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	333,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 3 " flats	.....		
COPP'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,833 19	32,001 46	122,835 65	0.6 acre	.....	0.11 "		
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898 and 1902	210,229 06	6,940 80	217,170 86	55.4 acres	1.4 miles			
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	10,601 77	32,708 89	14 "				
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 39	16,189 35	40,993 74	18 "				
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896	47,063 98	16,768 00	63,831 98	11 "				
= FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND,	1897	.....	26,340 40	26,340 40	4.3 "	.....	0.4 "		
¶ FREEFORTH-STREET TRI- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 "	.....		
<i>Carried forward</i>		\$7,373,033 89	\$10,092,165 74	\$17,465,199 63	2,304.56 acres	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	125.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1907. — Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	COST TO DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward.....</i>	.....	\$7,373,638 89	\$10,092,165 74	\$17,465,804 63	2,304.56 acres	43.89 miles	66.11 miles	9.7 miles	126.4 acres
PRINCE-STREET PLAY- GROUND	{ 1897, 1899 and 1901 }	180,474 70	424 07	180,908 77	0.4 acre				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,136 00	3,804 41	53,999 41	2.3 acres				
FELLOW-STREET PLAY- GROUND	1897	14,508 73	5,014 87	19,513 59	0.86 acre				
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND	1897	27,709 28	10,043 75	47,753 23	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAY- GROUND	{ 1899, 1900 { 1901, 1903 }	327,508 84	13,551 26	346,068 10	5 "				
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	4,000 00	47,990 09	3.3 "				
SAVIN HILL PLAYGROUND....	1899	27,147 30	6,129 26	33,276 66	{ 6.9 acres land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND...	1899	24,825 11	5,992 71	30,817 82	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND,	1903	23,166 75	.....	23,166 75	9.6 "				
COTTAGE-STREET PLAY- GROUND, WARD 2.....	1903	47,003 32	2,997 68	50,000 00	3.25 "				
RANDOLPH-ST. PLAYGROUND,	1903	256,440 63	24,139 19	280,579 75	2.8 "				
MARCELLA-ST. PLAYGROUND,	1903	.....	28,587 46	28,587 46	5.1 "				
ROGERS Park.....	1899	30,000 00	3,803 11	33,803 11	6.9 "				
<i>Carried forward .....</i>	.....	\$8,423,537 98	\$10,305,743 64	\$18,644,970 47	2,371.66 acres	43.89 miles	66.11 miles	9.7 miles	126.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1907.—Concluded.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	COST TO DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$8,438,597 98	\$10,905,742 54	\$18,544,370 47	2,571.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	135.4 acres
* BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 "				
* OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	632 34	632 34	0.22 acre				
* COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905	.....	5,304 37	5,304 37	8.07 "				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGAT- ING SITES.....	.....	245 29	.....	245 29					
General account.....	.....	\$8,438,773 23	\$10,211,923 95	\$18,650,697 17					
Park Nursery.....	.....	.....	73,987 50	73,987 50					
Betterment expenses.....	.....	.....	29,947 07	29,947 07					
			13,356 10	13,356 10					
		\$8,438,773 23	\$10,329,314 62	\$18,767,987 84	2,351.15 acres	43.85 miles	66.11 miles	8.7 miles	135.4 acres

* An additional area of 164 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 132.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

†† Transferred to Street Department.

‡‡ 26,470 square feet transferred from, and \$3,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

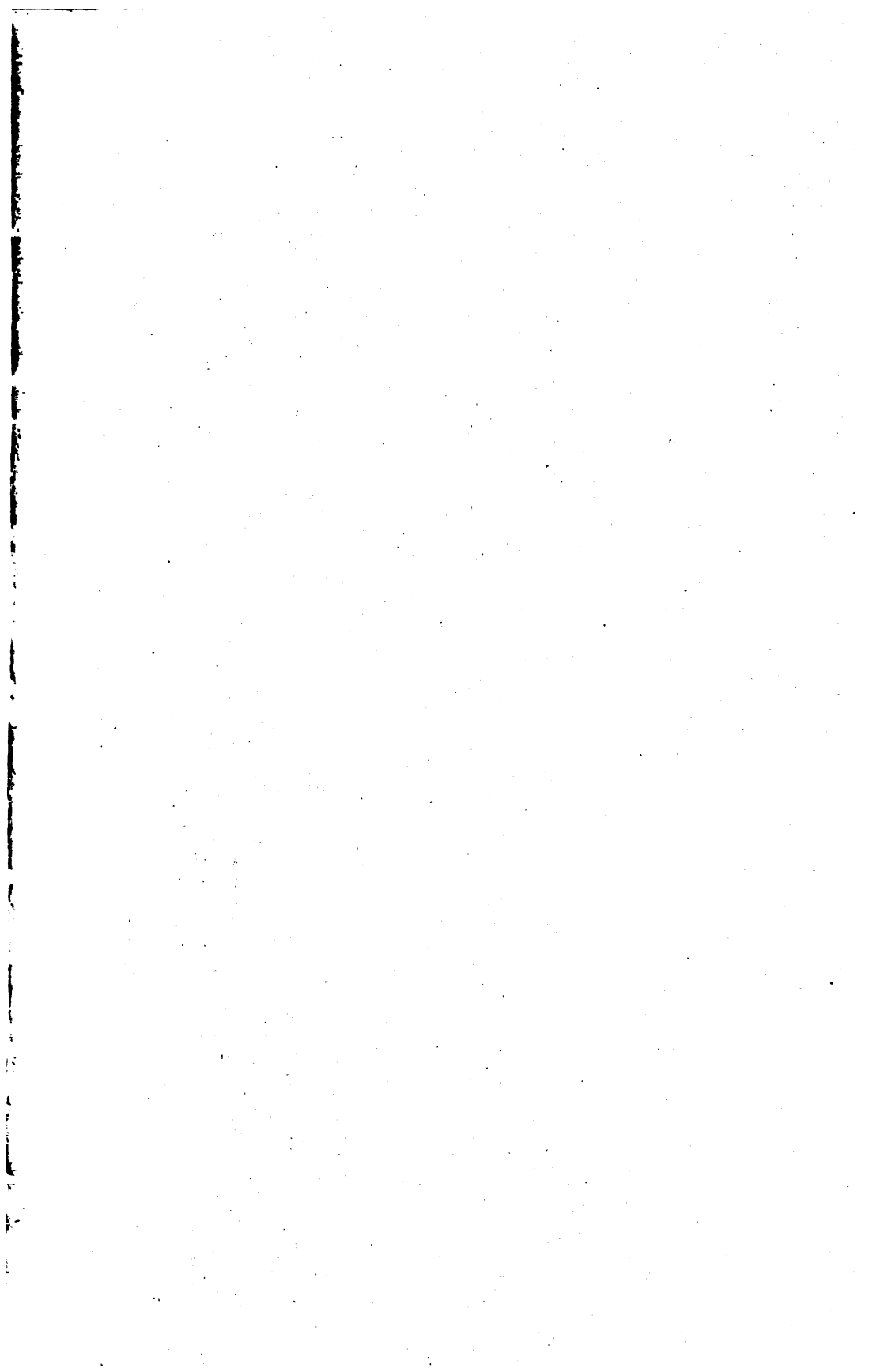
§§ Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

* Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

† Transferred from School Department.

‡ Custody given to city by Stat. 1591, Chap. 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 4.08 miles, 59.3 miles, and 6.3 miles.





City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

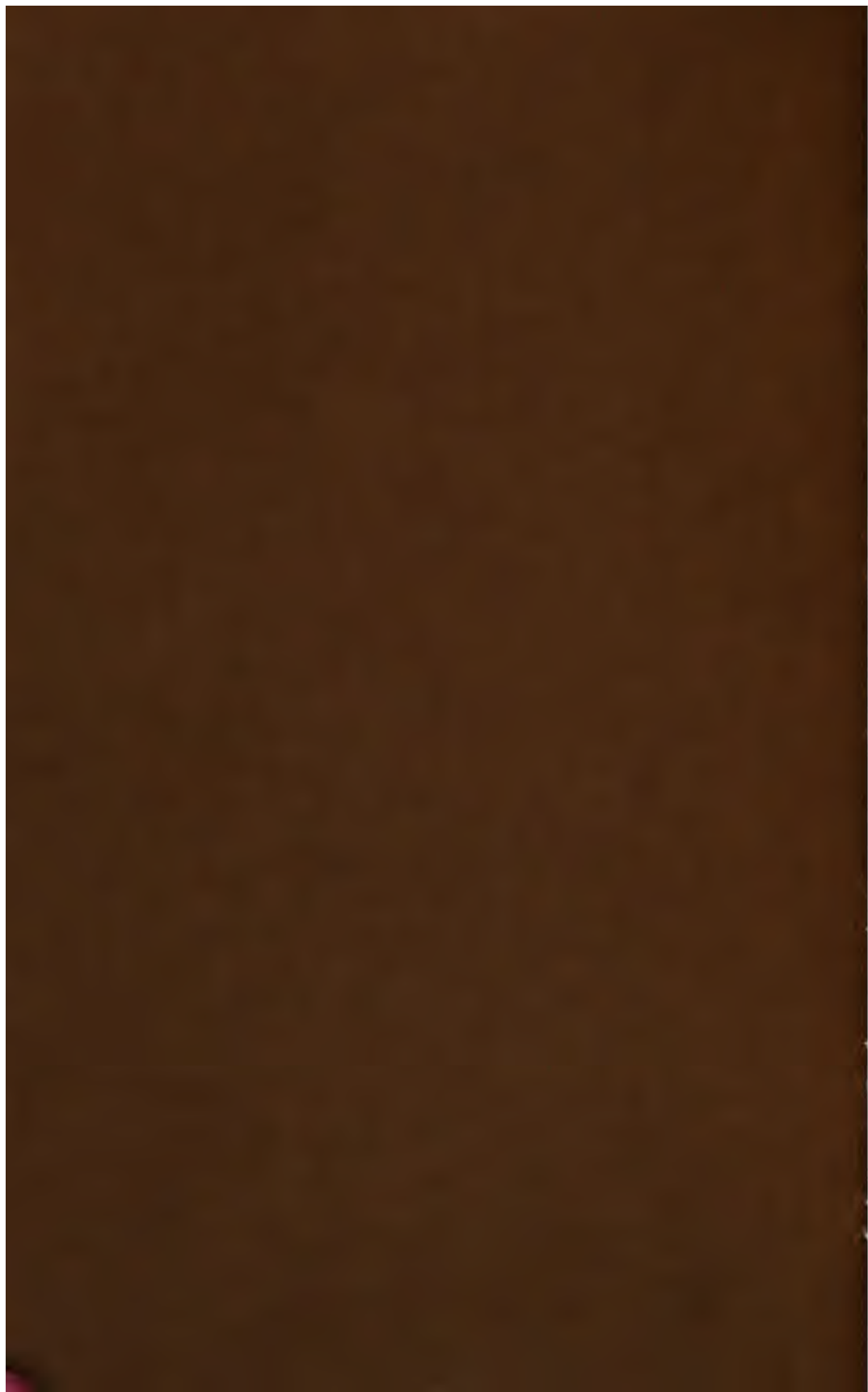
FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1908



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1908





City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1908



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1908



FRANKLIN PARK. — SCARBORO' BRIDGE AND ROCK MILTON.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. GEORGE A. HIBBARD,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

SIR, — We have striven during the past year to keep the standard of maintenance of the parks and playgrounds in a manner befitting their high reputations. This has been a very difficult task, and one in which we have not been wholly successful, owing to insufficient appropriations. The advance of twenty-five cents a day in the pay of our laborers, and the increased expenditure caused by the gypsy and brown-tail moths and the elm-leaf beetle made serious inroads into our funds, so that, despite the fact that we have exercised the utmost economy and the closest supervision of all work done, we have been obliged to leave undone things of importance to the well-being of our plantations and woodlands and the upkeep of our drives and walks.

Additional playgrounds are needed, and additional funds to make more available those we now have. We again call the attention of our public-spirited and benevolent fellow citizens to the enduring value of a present of a playground to the city. No one could desire or obtain a better or more lasting monument than such a gift.

By chapter 295 of the Acts of 1907 the School Committee has been given control of some of our playgrounds. The wisdom of this act time will determine.

We have been much pleased with the results of treating the surface of our roads with oil emulsion. It has saved the

public money and increased the public comfort. For the details of this and all other work of the department we refer you to the report hereto annexed of Mr. Pettigrew, our faithful and efficient Superintendent.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. STRATTON,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY,
Commissioners.

Boston, January 31, 1908.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO CHARLES E. STRATTON, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST AND
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN, — I herewith submit a report of the work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year 1907.

FRANKLIN PARK.

The young plantations of trees in Franklin Park are growing rapidly, while the earlier planted ones are beginning to assume somewhat of a woodland appearance. As growth has progressed the thinning out of overcrowding trees has been regularly done; pruning for form has also been systematically performed. While results in the main have been good, much more would have been attained had our appropriations permitted of a free cultivation of the ground under the trees. The old woodlands have very much improved in appearance; the pruning and thinning of the past ten years, together with the loam additions made to the surface where the soil covering was thin, have induced a better growth in trees and in undergrowth.

Since the age limit of those who are permitted to use the Playstead for sports has been raised to nineteen years the attendance has steadily increased, especially on Saturdays and holidays, when the large area is fully occupied by those indulging in the various games. This good result has been attained without serious damage to the surrounding planted grounds.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

On account of the settlement of the foundation, it became necessary last winter to rebuild 417 lineal feet of the wall

separating the Arboretum from the Arborway. The wall is underlaid by a peat bed, which necessitated piling, on which a concrete foundation was laid for the support of the wall. About 500 lineal feet, in addition to the above, requires to be rebuilt. This portion, however, is not in a dangerous condition, so that the work of repair may be spread over a period of three years or so. Piling will not be necessary in the repair of this part of the wall.

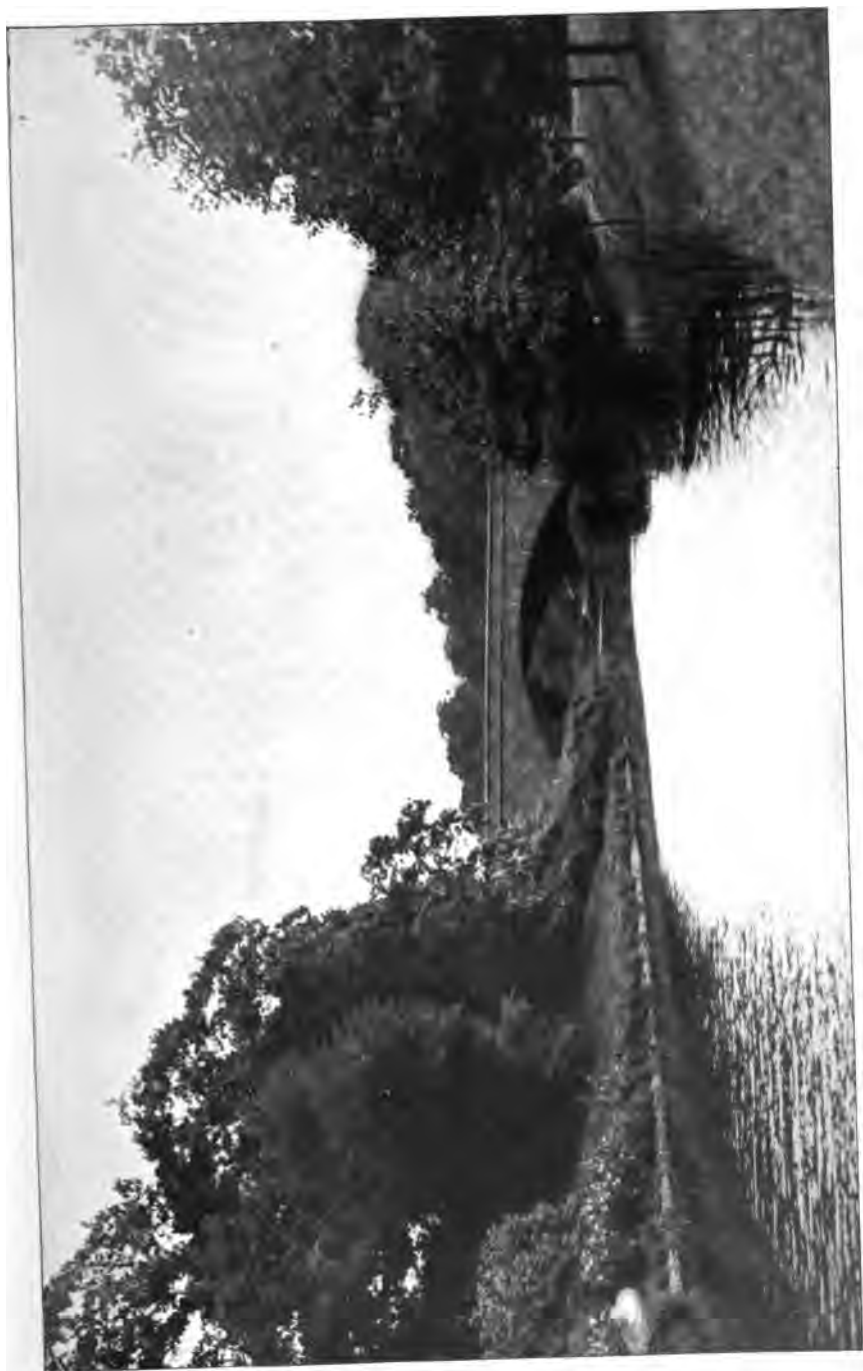
OLMSTED PARK, RIVERWAY AND FENS.

These parks required during the past year little more than the usual maintenance attention, with the exception of the Fens, where the planting in connection with the changes at the Museum of Fine Arts was done. At the Fens Playground a large amount of filling was received and graded at the simple cost of necessary labor, and in the fall the drains were laid. The grounds will be in a condition this year for considerable use, without interfering with the receiving and grading of such filling as may be offered to us free. It is very desirable that a fence should be constructed along the Audubon road line, to prevent the tramping out of the planted slopes and borders. A low, woven-wire fence, too, is needed along the waterway, to prevent balls from being driven into the water. The playground is conveniently situated for the use of a populous district. An appropriation for its completion is very desirable.

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE.

Between Brookline Avenue and the Newton line.

The work of repairing the roadway was continued last spring, the portion lying between Brighton avenue and Warren street being picked up and resurfaced with macadam and well rolled. Tree holes, fifteen feet square and four feet deep, were dug and filled with good loam, in one of the loam borders between Warren street and North Beacon street,



RIVERWAY. — LONGWOOD BRIDGE

which were planted with red oaks from the department nurseries. An appropriation is needed to complete the planting of this avenue. The conditions are such that generous preparation of the ground should be made before planting. The trees we have in our nurseries in readiness for the work.

CHARLESBANK.

The work of the Charles River Basin Commission, during the past two years, has seriously interfered with the full use of this playground. There is a prospect that the gymnasium ground will, this season, be freed from the operations of the contractor for the locks, and athletic work be permitted to go on without interruption.

Your Superintendent would again call your attention to the urgent need there is for the extension of the iron fence on the Charles street boundary. The indiscriminate crossing over to the water front of the large numbers of people who use the park make impossible the growth of shrubbery or turf. A fence, with openings at each intersecting street, would confine direct crossing to the walks made for this purpose.

While the work of the men's gymnasium has been much interrupted, as above stated, the work at the women's and children's gymnasium has been of an interesting character, an account of which will be found elsewhere in this report.

WOOD ISLAND PARK.

The fine growth that the trees have made at this favorite summer resort now give shade to those who love to sit on the turf-covered slopes and enjoy the fine view of the harbor with the cooling breezes that sweep over its surface.

The gymnasium and ball grounds were flooded, as usual, for skating last winter, and were patronized by large numbers. Tennis, football and cricket are the favorite games at this park. The attendance at the outdoor gymnasium has been

decreasing slightly during the past two years, being respectively for 1904, 1905, 1906 and 1907, an average of 261,399, 219, and 209 per day. The building now needs extensive repairs, which are estimated at \$5,000 or over.

CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.

Only the ordinary work of maintenance was done at this park.

MARINE PARK, CASTLE ISLAND AND THE STRANDWAY.

To the Sunday and holiday pleasure seeker these portions of the park system are favorite resorts. The harbor views and the cooling breezes, together with the bathing, draw thousands of visitors. The shelter accommodations have been increased by the erection, at the end of the pier, of an open-sided pavilion-like structure, 256 feet by 36½ feet.

The filling of the large pond goes on steadily. The material is obtained from the Sanitary Department and from excavation contractors, and costs the department nothing except the labor expended in grading it.

The young trees along the Strandway are having a hard struggle against the sweeping winds; the trees, however, in the plantations at Marine Park are doing well, and already afford shade. The shrubbery, generally, between Marine Park and the railroad bridge is growing vigorously.

The boat service between the Public Landing and Castle Island was run during the past season on regular schedule time.

CHESTNUT HILL PARK.

In the spring of last year the slopes adjoining Commonwealth avenue and Chestnut Hill avenue, extending down to Beacon street, were planted for an extension of the woodland effect toward the south from the old woodland.

This park, until the past two years, was largely patronized. On a Sunday or holiday visitors could be counted by thousands.

Now the numbers are lessened by at least two-thirds, and Franklin Park has gained in the same or a larger degree in patronage.

WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY.

This parkway is the connecting link between the Arboretum at Walter street and Stony Brook Reservation of the Metropolitan Park Commission. Nothing has been done towards its development except a little grading between Anawan avenue and Bellevue Hill, the cutting of a bridle-path through the woodland, and some thinning and pruning of the trees.

DORCHESTER PARK.

Dorchester Avenue, near Richmond Street.

(26 Acres.)

This beautiful piece of natural woodland is frequented by those seeking rest, quiet, and cooling shade, and by many picnic parties, for whose purposes it is particularly adapted.

COPP'S HILL TERRACES.

Charter Street.

(0.6 Acre.)

This breathing space and lookout is much abused by malicious and mischievous persons, who tear the crestings from the walls, and even loosen the coping stones. Trees and shrubbery, too, are badly mutilated. The cement concrete flagging has settled, and is very much broken up, which will necessitate considerable repair next season.

NORTH END BEACH.

For ten years past this beach has been under the control of the Bath Trustees.

OAK SQUARE, BERNERS SQUARE AND TRINITY TRIANGLE.

Only the ordinary work of maintenance was performed.

DUST SUPPRESSION BY OIL TREATMENT.

In 1906, 12 miles of roads were treated with oil for dust suppression, and the results were so satisfactory that in 1907 the treatment was extended over the whole system of drives, a total of 40 miles in length.

The oil treatment is cheaper than watering. Mr. C. E. Putnam, our engineer, a few years ago, after careful observation, computed the cost of watering in Franklin Park at \$489 per mile of 30-foot roadway per annum, watering being done on 182 days. The cost for the same service on Commonwealth avenue was \$883 per mile of 30-foot roadway per annum, watering being done on 230 days. Commonwealth avenue represents the most costly part of the system, and Franklin Park the least costly in point of dust laying. In view of the fact that cost of team hire is greater and hours of labor shorter than when the estimate was made, an average of \$680 per mile per annum might be considered a low estimate of the present cost of dust suppression by the watering method. These estimates may seem a little high for watering; it must, however, be borne in mind that watering is done in the Park Department whenever the dust flies and the thermometer is not lower than 24° Fahrenheit. The cost of oiling for last year was \$375.63 per mile of road 30 feet wide, or at the rate of \$0.0213 per square yard.

In addition to the effective laying of the dust, we found that the asphaltum in the oil had a binding effect on the surface of the road, making less repairs necessary, so much so that we were last year able to lay up our rollers in August, when in previous years they had been kept in continuous operation, on road repair, until the advent of frosty weather, yet the roads last year were in as good condition in the fall as when oiling was commenced in the spring. The surface of the roads being better bound by the asphaltum, less washing and guttering resulted from the rain, less gutter cleaning was required, and less material was found in the catch-basins;

the softer footing, too, proved grateful to horseflesh, and a saving was effected in shoeing, from the yielding nature of the road surface; but, more important than all, by the oil method the dust was suppressed not alone indifferently during the working hours of the day, but night and day effectually.

We apply the oil in the form of an emulsion, containing about 16 per cent. of oil. Renewals are made in from ten to twenty-five days, according to location and the use to which the road may be subject. As for example, Commonwealth avenue, between Arlington street and Brookline avenue, requires renewals, or rather reinforcements, at intervals of eight or ten days, while from Brookline avenue to the Newton line renewals are required only once in fourteen or sixteen days; Columbia road, Arborway and Jamaica way, with the Fens, require renewals at intervals of fourteen to sixteen days, while Franklin Park, where automobiles are excluded, requires renewals only at intervals of twenty to twenty-five days.

We prefer to apply the oil in the form of an emulsion, because of the ease with which a treatment can be given and the prevention of annoyance to users of the drives. Carriages may follow immediately after the distributing sprinklers with little danger of being soiled, while all danger and disagreeable smell is removed after an hour or two.

Dust will collect on any road, by accretion, by dust blowing from other sources, or by attrition of the road itself, beyond the power of any dust-layer for any great length of time to prevent. The frequent use of a thin oil emulsion serves to saturate and lay this moving dust at slight expense or annoyance.

In the manufacture of our emulsions we use steam pumps, which do the work of the transference of materials and of their emulsification by agitation. Our formula is 15 pounds of soap dissolved in 50 gallons of water to each 100 gallons of crude oil. The soap is placed in barrels of water and dissolved by steam heat, then pumped into the stock reservoirs, which are simply street sprinkling wagons. The pump is

then attached to the tank of the sprinkling wagon and the contents agitated until emulsified. This forms the stock, which contains 66 per cent. of oil. The stock is then run out to the work, and forms the supply for the sprinklers working on the drives, 150 gallons of the stock being used to 450 gallons of water, making a solution containing about 16 per cent. of oil. The transfer is made by gravity flow, the stock wagons being set on slight elevations and large transferring hose used. This method is crude; experiment might devise something better. Possibly compressed air, or some form of syphon, could be used to advantage. We find the ordinary street hydrant to be sufficient for the emulsification of the stock with the added water in the sprinkling wagon.

We favor a thin rolling cushion of coarse sand or fine screenings on the surface of the roads, saturated with oil. This is, however, hard to maintain on curved roads, the swing of the wheels throwing it to the outer side of the curve. We believe that this loose, rolling cushion helps to release the air suction below the tire, which is so destructive to the road binder. Fine or dead sand of a yellow color makes a very pleasing surface, but it must not be too heavily treated with oil, or a hard asphaltum surface will result, which has a tendency to scale.

I have not added the cost of this cushion of sand, which we like to but do not always give to the surface of the road before oiling, for the reason that it more properly should come under the head of road repairs than that of dust suppression. Under the water treatment we should have given the roads, during the past season, three or four applications of stone screenings, and rolled them into the surface. One or two applications under the oil treatment have been sufficient.

We find that cotton seed oil soap is the best of the soaps we have tried for making the oil emulsion. We use Texas oil on account of its having an asphaltum base.



FRANKLIN FIELD. — LOCKER BUILDING

2

Small "pot holes," formed by the water settling in small depressions of the roadway, and being forcibly ejected, along with road material, by the tires of the automobiles, are rarely found in our oil-treated roads; when they occur we pick them out, fill with broken stone and screenings, then water and ram with a paving rammer.

FRANKLIN FIELD.

Talbot and Blue Hill Avenues.

(77 Acres.)

The largest playground in the Boston Park Department is Franklin Field, where facilities are provided for flooding 35 acres for skating, where 20 games of baseball can be played simultaneously in summer, where 3 games of cricket often may be seen played at one time, together with 19 tennis games, where the game of bowling has been introduced and is flourishing, and where, when the weather is fine, 8,000 to 10,000 people enjoy themselves on Saturday afternoon and holidays, cheering and giving support to their friends, contestants in the games.

A commodious field house, 32 feet by 154 feet, is in course of erection, which will have a covered piazza, 11 feet wide, running around its four walls. The house when completed will contain sanitary, locker, shelter, and spray-bath accommodations; a part of the basement will provide storage room for departmental uses.

Notwithstanding the large area now available for use in Franklin Field, it is not sufficient for the demands made on holidays. At such times additional diamonds are laid out on the slightly rolling and ungraded ground. During the past winter a large number of boulders were blasted out from the slope opposite the cricket grounds. This, when graded down, although on an incline, will be a welcome addition to the cricketers' outfield. The removal of boulders was continued on the edge of the baseball field down to the nursery line.

The nursery of the department is thriving. It contains a fine lot of stock suitable for planting in the parks, comprising altogether 17,417 trees and 21,669 shrubs.

CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAYGROUND.

Dorchester Avenue and Park Street.

(5.8 Acres.)

The customary children's games and sports, under a female teacher, also tennis, were carried on as usual. A skating field was provided as in former years.

Across Geneva avenue the main field was used for ball playing, quoits, jumping the bar, and putting the shot.

SAVIN HILL BEACH AND PLAYGROUND.

Springdale and Denny Streets, Dorchester.

(18.6 Acres.)

This is a popular bathing place, where lockers and closets are furnished free to bathers, who bring their own bathing suits and towels. Accommodations for 820 bathers are provided in the three bath-houses at one time, or about 3,000 on each tide.

The playground is, as yet, ungraded, but under an appropriation now available, advertisements for furnishing filling will at once be issued. The site of the playground was flooded last winter for skating.

NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.

Neponset Avenue.

(18 Acres.)

A fine, level, open area of salt meadow, a part of which has been covered with sandy loam for ball playing. There is a demand for the reclamation of more of the meadow for ball playing, which could be done reasonably by covering the surface with four or five inches of good filling, and seeding

down. A children's corner with apparatus is established here, and is in charge of a female teacher during the summer months. The playground is diked and flooded for skating in winter.

MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.

Chelsea Street and Mystic River.

(2.3 Acres.)

This playground contains a children's corner, with an equipment of simple apparatus. A female teacher has charge in summer. A small ball field for boys is also maintained. Young and full-grown men are permitted to use the field on Saturday afternoon and holidays, when, for the safety of the children, their corner is closed against attendance.

ROGERS PARK.

Lake and Foster Streets.

(6.9 Acres.)

In this combined park and playground, ball playing is a popular game. Provision is made in winter for skating. Extension of the facilities for ball playing could be made if an appropriation were available for putting the small brook under ground and if some drainage were done. An appropriation for planting trees on the boundaries is also needed.

NORTH BRIGHTON PLAYGROUND.

Western Avenue and North Harvard Street.

(14 Acres.)

The increasing use of this playground makes it necessary that an appropriation should be obtained for enlarging the space available for play; the reclamation of the salt meadow would afford a favorable and inexpensive opportunity for this needed extension. Provision for the planting of trees on the borders is also necessary.

A sanitary and locker building was erected on this playground during the past season. A considerable area is flooded in winter for skating, which is much used for that sport. In summer there is great demand for assignment of space for ball games.

BILLINGS FIELD.

La Grange Street, near Centre Street, West Roxbury.

(11 Acres.)

Provision is here made for ball playing, tennis, and skating. A plantation of trees on the Bellevue-street slope is doing finely, and will soon afford abundant shade for onlookers of the games. A sanitary and locker building is needed. The body of the field has been filled on a peat bed, which has given considerable trouble by unequal settlements from the pressure of the overlaid filling.

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.

South Walter and Robert Streets.

(3.7 Acres.)

On this much used playground facilities for ball playing, tennis, and skating are provided. A sanitary and locker building is needed.

COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAYGROUND.

(5 Acres.)

This playground required only ordinary maintenance care, the conduct of the games, apparatus, etc., being, as usual, under the direction and control of the Playground Committee of the Civic League.

PRINCE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Prince and North Bennet Streets.

(0.4 Acre.)

This little recreation area has six or seven school-houses within 350 feet of its centre. Its equipment of teeter-boards,

swings, and sand-boxes is in constant use by the children. A female teacher is in charge during the summer months. Sanitary accommodations are needed.

FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner of M Street, South Boston.

(4.6 Acres.)

Apparatus is being installed in the out-door gymnasium; lockers are also being constructed in the building, which is equipped with spray baths and sanitary accommodations. The playground contains two baseball diamonds, which, in winter, are flooded for skating.

FELLOWS-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Fellows and Hunneman Streets.

(0.85 Acre.)

A sanitary building is very much needed at this playground.

COTTAGE-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Near Maverick Street, East Boston.

(3.85 Acres.)

Plans are being made for the erection of a small sanitary and shelter building, together with an enclosed space for a children's playground, which will be equipped with sand-boxes and simple apparatus for the little folks.

The grounds are provided with diamonds and backstops for ball playing; quoiting is also one of the sports for which provision is made. An appropriation for fencing this playground is desirable.

FOREST HILLS AND MT. HOPE PLAYGROUND.

Between Washington and Florence Streets.

(9.6 Acres.)

A fine piece of land, which, by simple drainage, has been made fairly available for ball games. Grading would improve

the ground, but more necessary are sanitary and locker accommodations.

MARCELLA-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner Ritchie Street.

(5.1 Acres.)

This playground is equipped for ball games, and, being located in a populous district, is much used. Lockers are being installed, together with spray bath-rooms for men and women. The slope of the ground, being over two feet per one hundred feet, will not permit of flooding for skating. The removal of the ledge outcrop in the grounds would add much needed space for sports. It could, no doubt, be removed free of cost to the department, and, possibly, a small price could be obtained for the stone from a dealer in crushed stone.

RANDOLPH-STREET PLAYGROUND.

Albany and Randolph Streets.

(2.8 Acres.)

In the building at this playground, during the past season, two basket-ball courts were established, which have been freely used. The ladies of the South End House, nearby, have the use of the gymnasium room for a class of young women from the neighboring business blocks, whom they entertain each day during the noon hour.

The children's corner, fitted with apparatus and a shelter, under the charge of a female teacher, is much enjoyed. Football, baseball and other games are constantly played.

COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.

C, D and Cypher Streets, South Boston.

(8.07 Acres.)

The grading of this fine piece of ground was completed during the past year, when baseball diamonds were laid out and

backstops constructed. A drinking fountain was also set up. The grounds were flooded the past winter for skating. This will prove to be a very useful and much frequented playground.

CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.

Main and Alford Streets.

(14 Acres.)

An appropriation of \$3,000 was made by the City Council last year for the equipment of an outdoor gymnasium at this playground. The construction of this gymnasium is now well under way, and will be available for use early this year. The equipment will comprise horizontal and inclined ladders, travelling rings, climbing poles and ropes, swings, trapezes, horizontal and parallel bars, high parallels, chest weights, jumping and quoit boxes, shot puts, giant stride, and basketball court.

The grounds, like most of our playgrounds, are so graded as to make them convenient for flooding for skating in winter. Accommodation, too, is made for ball games. Sanitary and locker accommodations are needed to meet the requirements of the large numbers who use the playground.

STRANDWAY PLAYGROUND.

Columbia Road, opposite Newman Street.

(14 Acres.)

The filling of the flats by the Street Cleaning and Sanitary Departments, together with the filling received from contractors for excavations, during the past eight years, has progressed so rapidly that the department now has an area of 11 acres, which is already graded, for playground purposes.

A portion of the grounds is set apart for the use of children, where teeter-boards, tilting ladders, and other simple apparatus are furnished. A female teacher is in attendance. A large part of the ground is flooded in winter for skating.

The large red barn which stood on the playground has been moved over to a piece of ground owned by the department, near Preble street, and fitted up for six horses, the rooms overhead being arranged for a teamster, who acts as caretaker. The lot has been fenced, and tool sheds and wagon sheds have been erected, making altogether a very convenient headquarters for the district.

ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.

Brent Street, near Talbot Avenue.

(2.2 Acres.)

This playground, planted around with trees, and equipped for flooding for skating in winter and for ball playing in summer, is much used. Sanitary and locker accommodations are needed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION IN CHARGE OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

To the Board of Park Commissioners :

GENTLEMEN, — For seventeen years has your committee enjoyed the supervision of Charlesbank, as entrusted to them by you. It is always to be remembered that Charlesbank was the first outdoor gymnasium in the world for women and children. That it has been eminently successful as such is proven by the present maintenance of such gymnasiums in many other cities in this country than Boston (where now there are several), as also abroad. These open-air gymnasiums have been the forerunners of the open-air treatment for tuberculosis patients and of the now general emphasis on the constant need for fresh air by all classes of a community.

To the healthful functions of such a gymnasium your committee have endeavored to add whatever benefits could arise indirectly from the social, friendly intercourse of the instructors and of the committee with the frequenters of Charlesbank. The frankness and cordiality with which their efforts have been received have resulted in the happy, well-mannered freedom that prevails there.

Miss Miriam Harris, the chief superintendent in charge, was assisted by Miss Elizabeth Johnston during the summer vacation of the public schools in 1907. Twice a week there were children's classes in the gymnasium and twice a week a women's class, the exercises consisting of freehand and apparatus work, running games and fancy steps. The games on the green were eagerly sought, especially the ball games.

Some of the children were known as "Charlesbank Helpers," whose duty consisted in picking up the waste papers on the ground, and who were honored in performance of their tasks by being allowed to wear badges. Flowers were often sent by the Flower Mission and friends. Singing in unison or alone was also a favorite pastime and a reward of good manners.

Special attention was given to baths. Often over 191 were taken on a single day, and on August 14 the maximum of 212 was reached, the total number from June 8 to October 17 being 7,340. The total attendance for the season from April 29 to October 17 was 103,597.

In addition to the summer attendance should be reckoned the number of children who came to the lodge on Saturdays, when it was open all day, and on the afternoons of the other week days, this number varying from 60 to 150 a day. Miss Florence Harris was in charge of the children, keeping them happy and busy with swings, books and games. It is perhaps worthy of mention to add that on more than one occasion appropriate exercises were arranged to celebrate a special day, like Washington's birthday, which took place near, but not on the day, as such days are holidays.

In December, 1907, the evening classes, five times a week, were resumed, under the instruction of Miss Ann I. Loftus. The upper room of the lodge was refitted with apparatus and excellent lighting provided. The classes have steadily increased in number, basket ball nights as many as seventy being in attendance.

The association which your committee has represented has lately ceased to exist, for with the control of the school playgrounds by the School Committee, the establishment of many other playgrounds under the care of the Park Commissioners and other changes, it has seemed wise to dissolve the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association. But in presenting this, their last report, your committee desire to express their gratitude to the Board of Park Commissioners

and to Mr. John A. Pettigrew for their constant courtesy and helpfulness. If your committee have been of some slight aid, they themselves have gained much pleasure through their supervision of Charlesbank, and are grateful for the privilege of having aided in making known the benefits of an outdoor gymnasium for women and children and of a winter playroom for little boys and girls.

KATE GANNETT WELLS, .
ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS,
Committee.

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1907-08.

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATION.	Balances, January 31, 1907.	Appropriations and Transfers, 1907-08.	Total Credits.	Expenditures, 1907-08.	Balances, January 31, 1908.
Park Department, maintenance.....	.....	*\$336,691 14	\$336,691 14	\$336,144 87	†\$546 27
Marine Park, pier head.....	.....	6,000 00	6,000 00	3,509 81	2,490 19
Strandway, ball grounds.....	.....	3,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	.....
Castle Island, sanitary and shelter.....	\$3,000 00	.....	3,000 00	2,291 85	708 15
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths.....	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus.....	.....	3,000 00	3,000 00	16 25	2,983 75
Franklin Field, Speedway.....	.....	6,001 00	6,001 00	3,152 80	2,848 20
Franklin Field, locker buildings.....	.....	25,000 00	25,000 00	3,701 40	21,298 60
North Brighton Playground, gymnastic apparatus.....	.....	12,001 00	12,001 00	6,326 18	5,674 82
First-street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.....	.....	4,500 00	4,500 00	459 76	4,040 24
Fellows-street Playground, handball court.....	.....	2,500 00	2,500 00	2,017 77	482 23
Savin Hill Playground, grading and improvements.....	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00
Playground, Wards 7 and 9.....	19,420 25	.....	19,420 25	2,070 70	17,349 55
" Ward 9, bleachers.....	.....	1,001 00	1,001 00	574 41	426 59
Marcella-street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.....	.....	4,500 00	4,500 00	.....	4,500 00
Ward 22 Playground.....	2,067 82	.....	2,067 82	368 62	1,699 20
Commonwealth Playground.....	4,795 63	.....	4,795 63	2,603 51	2,192 12
Cottage-st. Playground, gymnastic apparatus, lockers, etc.....	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00
Playground, Orient Heights.....	.....	30,000 00	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00
" Parker Hill.....	.....	60,000 00	60,000 00	.....	60,000 00
" Ward 13.....	.....	25,000 00	25,000 00	.....	25,000 00
" Ward 17.....	.....	80,000 00	80,000 00	.....	80,000 00
Savin Hill Park.....	.....	35,000 00	35,000 00	.....	35,000 00
	\$29,283 70	\$649,194 14	\$678,477 84	\$366,237 93	\$312,239 91

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$5,891.14.

† Balance merged at end of financial year, \$546.27.

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction, from February 1, 1907, to January 31, 1908.

	Roads and Walks.	Drainage.	Grading.	Planta- tions.	Water Supply.	Buildings.	Gymnasium Apparatus and Fences.	Bleachers.	Handball Court.	Land and Expenses.	Totals.
Strandway.....			\$839 63			\$1,833 51	\$252 61	\$74 25			\$3,000 00
Marine Park.....						3,509 81					3,509 81
Castle Island.....		\$188 08				2,103 77					2,291 85
Charlestown Playground.....							16 25				16 25
Franklin Field.....	\$2,490 04					3,866 56	497 60				6,854 20
North Brighton Playground.....		494 28	392 67			5,350 52	88 71				6,326 18
First-street Playground.....						109 33	350 43				459 76
Fellows-street Playground.....									\$2,017 77		2,017 77
Marcella-street Playground.....				\$37 12		331 50					368 62
Randolph-street Playground.....			12 65			1,855 79	143 76	574 41		\$58 50	2,645 11
Commonwealth Playground.....		199 44	2,157 70		\$156 79	77 58	12 00				2,603 51
Totals.....	\$2,490 04	\$881 80	\$3,402 65	\$37 12	\$156 79	\$19,038 37	\$1,361 36	\$648 66	\$2,017 77	\$58 50	\$30,093 06

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance from

PARKS.	Roads.	Walks.	Grounds.	Buildings.
Commonwealth Avenue.....	\$31,391 09	\$2,900 56	\$10,365 31	.....
The Fens.....	7,294 52	1,059 70	11,144 61	\$955 25
Riverway.....	9,071 26	565 60	6,412 31	1,527 55
Olmsted Park.....	7,703 42	1,113 28	17,903 27	2,034 72
Arboretum.....	7,402 85	266 58	5,088 09	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....	3,517 18	699 47	40 69	436 80
West Roxbury Parkway.....	.....	.....	3,212 64	35 22
Franklin Park.....	10,403 80	1,412 57	44,868 80	12,366 92
Columbia Road.....	6,898 28	177 26	1,366 06	.....
Strandway.....	4,169 93	228 99	10,133 44	3,548 99
Marine Park.....	993 71	2,348 43	6,809 93	1,821 30
Wood Island Park.....	365 81	327 00	4,623 19	731 72
Charlesbank.....	.....	105 75	4,356 94	.....
Trinity Triangle.....	.....	9 00	.....	.....
Charlestown Heights.....	.....	409 67	2,180 63	854 84
Charlestown Playground.....	.....	114 46	1,168 05	.....
Dorchester Park.....	.....	.....	1,463 59	.....
Franklin Field.....	160 82	4 00	5,871 55	2,035 84
Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.....	.....	878 06	.....
Chestnut Hill Park.....	1,206 95	144 77	5,355 54	305 16
North Brighton Playground.....	.....	49 03	1,614 65	393 22
Neponset Playground.....	.....	.....	591 00	112 53
Billings Field.....	.....	.....	783 31	.....
First-street Playground.....	.....	37 84	1,222 57	1,545 03
Prince-street Playground.....	.....	.....	715 50	.....
Mystic Playground.....	.....	28 75	561 67	.....
Fellows-street Playground.....	.....	14 50	595 69	.....
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	.....	.....	528 43	408 59
Columbus-avenue Playground.....	.....	32 80	1,338 94	.....
Ashmont Playground.....	.....	.....	541 81	.....
Savin Hill Playground.....	.....	.....	454 39	380 33
Roslindale Playground.....	.....	.....	527 71	.....
Forest Hills Playground.....	.....	.....	253 30	.....
Rogers Park.....	.....	20 84	1,480 87	.....
Cottage-street Playground, Ward 2.....	.....	4 50	1,038 53	.....
Randolph-street Playground.....	.....	.....	670 26	605 29
Marcella-street Playground.....	.....	9 75	1,779 34	932 15
Commonwealth Park.....	.....	.....	266 63	92 75
Office Expense.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	\$90,579 62	\$12,085 10	\$158,207 30	\$31,124 20

February 1, 1907, to January 31, 1908.

Drainage.	Walls and Fences.	Sheep and Water Fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Office Expense.	Totals.
\$1,089 40		\$168 44					\$44,656 96
							21,711 92
		241 02	\$744 57				17,576 72
							29,740 28
	\$1,992 22						12,757 52
							6,686 36
							3,247 86
	352 25	1,296 61	3,383 47				74,084 42
							8,441 60
	184 20		553 89		\$262 48		19,081 92
425 15			3 50				12,402 02
			628 64	\$3,306 95			9,983 31
			111 46	3,812 25	2,953 47		11,339 87
							9 00
							3,445 14
			226 72	300 73			1,809 96
			213 64				1,677 23
		1,621 86	1,614 29				11,307 36
							878 06
819 36			878 29				7,012 42
			472 86		178 34		3,754 55
			427 88				1,354 73
			364 14				1,211 19
					96 37		3,265 95
					265 31		980 81
			70 71		284 62		945 75
					372 59		982 78
			338 67		200 43		1,476 12
			291 73		55 13		1,718 60
384 93			364 47				906 28
			1,106 59				2,326 24
			440 94				968 65
			14 89				268 19
			154 47				1,656 18
			223 09				1,266 12
			458 61		879 11		2,613 27
			25 99				2,747 23
			102 86				462 24
						\$7,878 53	7,878 53
							1,511 53
\$2,718 84	\$2,528 67	\$3,326 93	\$13,216 37	\$7,419 93	\$5,547 85	\$7,878 53	\$336,144 87

INCOME.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year	\$102 21
Received for labor	3,521 45
Received from rents, sale of buildings, wool, sheep, grass, wood, etc.	1,601 70
	<u>\$5,225 36</u>

PAYMENTS.

Appropriation Park Department	\$3,388 64
Income carried to General City Income	1,658 02
Balance on hand, January 31, 1908	178 70
	<u>\$5,225 36</u>

**Park Betterments Collected by City Collector,
to February 1, 1908.**

	Assesment's Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Asses- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Feb. 1, 1908.
Public Park, Back Bay..	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor...	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River .	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury	154,107 00	113,658 00	40,449 00	31,763 00	8,668 00
" Dorchester...	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,546 98</u>	<u>\$397,206 02</u>	<u>\$383,544 30</u>	<u>\$13,661 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding, January 31, 1908 \$16,298,910 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund, January 31, 1908 6,660,177 45

Net Debt, January 31, 1908 \$9,638,733 53

Park Statistics to January 31, 1908.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area	Length of Drive- ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM.									
Commonwealth avenue....	1894-1905	.....	\$121,807 93	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles			
Fens.....	1877-1879	\$596,254 49	2,747,129 93	115 "	4 "	6.7 "	1.1 miles		28 acres
* Riverway.....	1890	457,457 53	674,109 35	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.2 "		8 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890 and 1892	1,081,947 60	734,373 59	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.6 "		77 "
Arborway.....	1892	245,584 25	381,793 81	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "		
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882 and 1895	79,354 15	388,372 84	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....		0.6 acre
West Roxbury Parkway...	1894	135,265 29	22,123 21	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "		
Franklin Park.....	1883 and 1884	1,551,896 63	2,428,919 40	527 "	7.3 "	14.9 "	1 mile		7.4 acres
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899	447,528 63	540,511 93	.....				
Dorchesterway.....	1892	63,735 54	65,187 12	102.5 " land 194 " flats	4.2 "	4.5 "			
Strandway.....	{ 1890, 1892 1897, and 1901 }	772,515 12	390,558 96	1,163,074 08					
Marine Park.....	1883	232,972 57	1,058,483 26	{ 62.5 " land 4.9 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.3 "	.....		3.4 "
Carried forward.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$8,956,916 84	1,737.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles		124.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1908. — Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$8,956,916 84	\$14,621,428 64	1,737.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres
† Castle Island.....	1890.....	.....	34,977 40	34,977 40	{ 25.7 acres land 78.3 " " flats 55.6 " " land 155.4 " " flats }	{ 0.3 mile }	2.1 "	"	"
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1882 and 1891	132,800 00	259,273 53	392,073 53	10 acres	.....	1.5 "	"	"
CHARLESBANK.....	1883	373,916 99	313,448 13	687,365 12	0.12 acre	.....	"	"	"
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " " flats 14 " " land 4 " " flats }	.....	0.4 mile	"	"
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 56	153,645 58	28 "	.....	0.6 "	"	"
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.	1891	172,923 31	22,908 26	195,831 57	77 "	0.35 mile	"	"	"
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	{ 3.7 " " land 3 " " flats }	.....	0.11 "	"	"
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	125,551 10	282,892 32	0.9 acre	.....	"	"	"
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	"	"	"
COFF'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,858 19	32,001 46	122,859 65	"	"	"	"	"
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1896, 1899 and 1902 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	"	"	"	"	"
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	16,927 95	39,035 07	14 "	"	"	"	"
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 39	16,189 35	40,993 74	18 "	"	"	"	"
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896	47,068 98	16,758 00	63,826 98	11 "	"	"	"	"
|| FIRST-STREET PLAYGROUND.	1897	.....	26,800 16	26,800 16	4.6 "	"	0.4 "	"	"
¶ REEF-PORT-STREET TRI- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre	"	"	"	"
<i>Carried forward</i>.....	.....	\$7,373,638 89	\$10,031,623 79	\$17,405,262 68	2,304.56 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1908. — Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to DATE.		Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$7,373,638 89	\$10,031,623 79	2,304.56 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres
PRINCE-STREET PLAYGROUND.....	{ 1897, 1899 } { and 1901 }	180,474 70	434 07	0.4 acre				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,125 00	3,804 41	2.3 acres				
FELLOWES-STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1897	14,503 72	7,032 64	0.85 acre				
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAYGROUND.....	1897	37,709 58	10,042 75	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS-AVENUE PLAYGROUND.....	{ 1899, 1900 } { 1901, 1902 }	327,503 84	18,581 26	5 "				
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	4,000 00	2.2 "				
SAYIN HILL PLAYGROUND.....	1899	27,147 30	6,129 36	{ 6.9 acres land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.....	1899	24,825 11	5,992 71	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND.....	1902	25,166 75	.....	9.6 "				
COTTAGE-STREET PLAYGROUND, WARD 2.....	1902	47,002 32	2,997 68	3.85 "				
RANDOLPH-ST. PLAYGROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	26,784 23	2.8 "				
MARCELLA-ST. PLAYGROUND.....	1903	.....	28,956 08	5.1 "				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	3,853 11	6.9 "				
<i>Carried forward.</i>.....	.....	\$8,438,527 93	\$10,233,232 09	2,371.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1908. — Concluded.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,438,527 93	\$10,233,232 09	\$18,671,760 02	2,371.86 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres
BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 "				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	682 34	0.22 acre				
COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.....	1905	.....	7,807 88	7,807 88	8.07 acres				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....	.....	245 29	.....	245 29					
General account.....	.....	\$8,438,773 22	\$10,242,017 01	\$18,680,790 23					
Park Nursery.....	.....	.....	73,987 50	73,987 50					
Betterment expenses.....	.....	.....	29,947 07	29,947 07					
	.....	.....	13,356 10	13,356 10					
	.....	\$8,438,773 22	\$10,359,307 68	\$18,798,080 90	2,381.15 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	124.4 acres

* An additional area of 164 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

1 25,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

2 Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

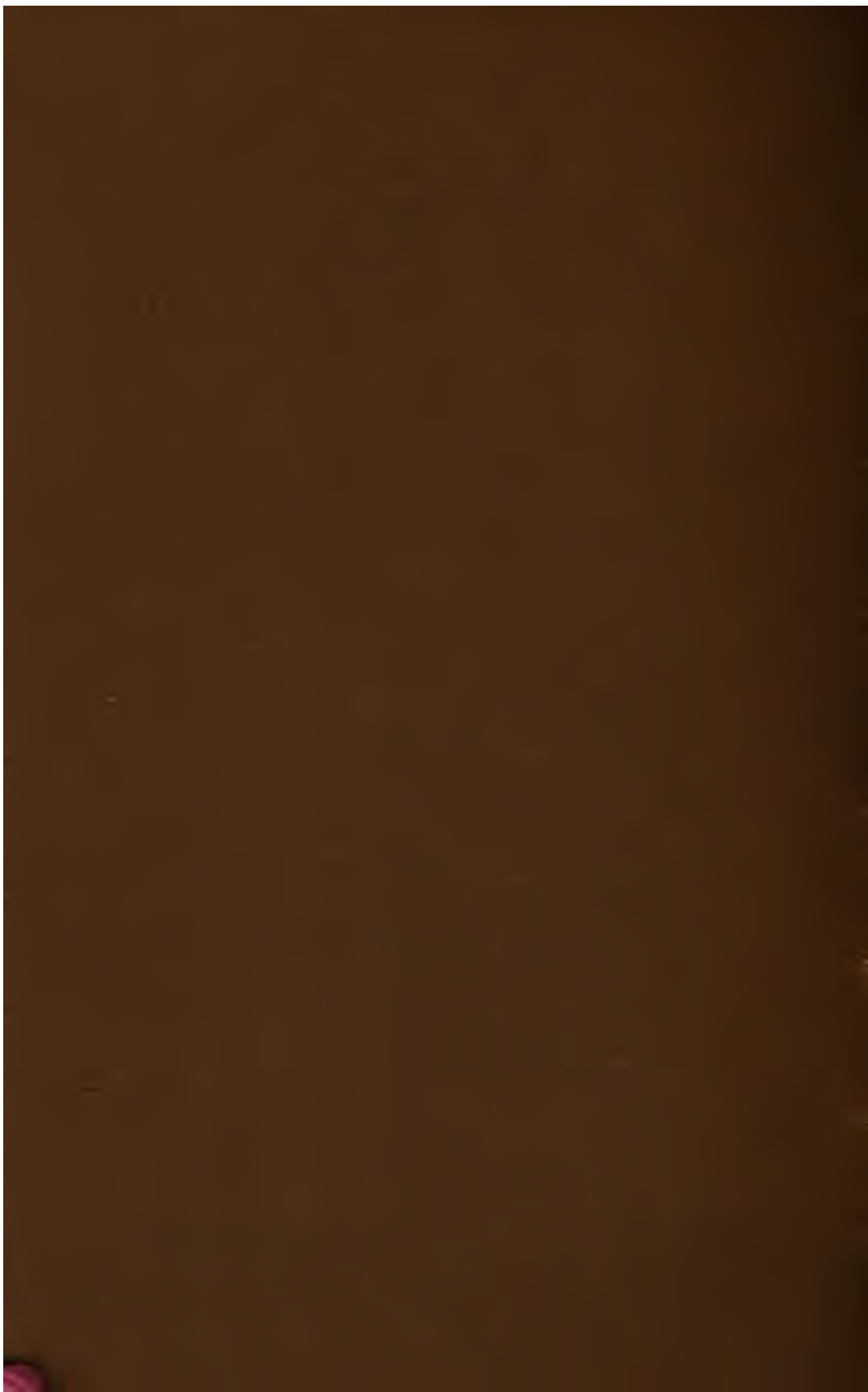
3 Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

4 Transferred from School Department by order of the City Council, Approved March 24, 1902.

5 Custody given to city by State, 1891. Chap. 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.





City of Boston

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1909



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1909



City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
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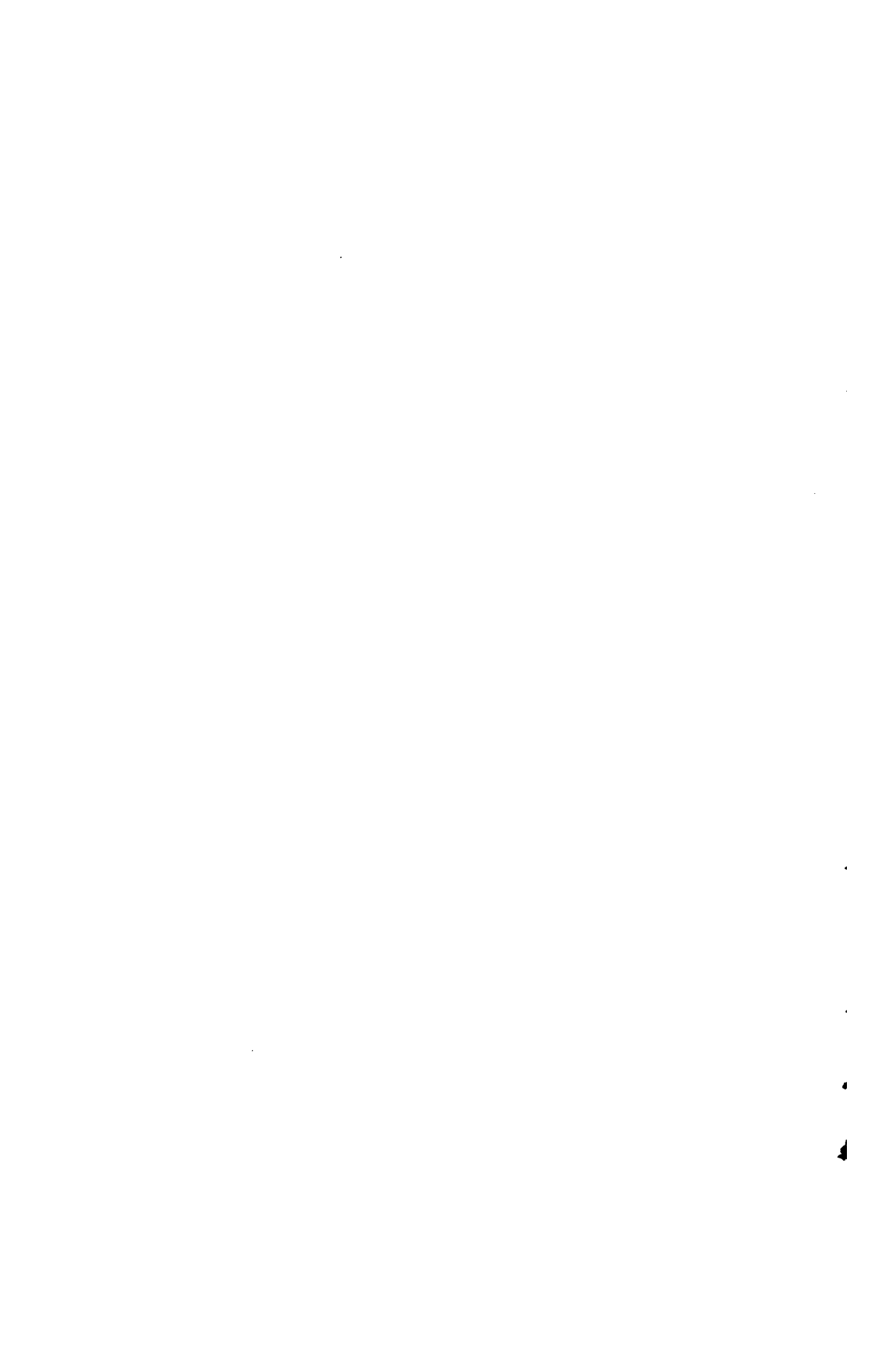
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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. GEORGE A. HIBBARD,
Mayor of the City of Boston.

SIR,— With a diminished appropriation, we have done our best during the past year to maintain as far as possible the high standard of maintenance of our parks and playgrounds, which is their due, and which is demanded by their world-wide reputation.

In spite of the closest supervision and the most careful attention to economical methods of repair, the area of worn-out roads increases with each year, until we now have about seven miles of roadway that need a thorough resurfacing. This is a work that cannot be longer postponed, as the roads are worn to their foundations in many places.

In other branches, too, of our maintenance work unprofitable economy has had to be practiced to bring our expenditures within our income. Plantations of young trees do not receive the cultivation or the fertilization they should have for their proper development; in the older woodlands much pruning of dead or diseased limbs remains undone, while improvements, like that of the planting of trees on the extension of Commonwealth avenue, are delayed to the detriment of the appearance of the city and its taxable valuation. Our appropriations for maintenance have not kept pace with the additions to our territory and to its needs of development. Increased wages and shortened hours of labor have added much to our expenses, while the suppression of the gypsy and brown-tail moths have been also a heavy drain on our maintenance account.

Investigation shows that the Park Department of Boston is maintained at a much less cost per acre than the park departments of five of the principal cities of the United States, although Boston's Park Department owns a larger proportion of playground area whose maintenance is costly in comparison with park area.

For construction we have had but little money given us, and that often for objects not requested and not needed by the department. Our most pressing wants are for sanitary, shelter and locker buildings and other improvements on our playgrounds.

We are glad to report our continued and growing satisfaction with the results obtained by the use of oil for the suppression of dust on our roads. They are kept permanently free from dust at less than half the former cost of watering, which was only effective for a portion of the day, and in addition, a considerable saving is effected in road repairs through the better bonding of the surface by the asphaltum in the oil.

There are still playgrounds needed in thickly settled districts of the city, some of which could be obtained with the money already appropriated by the city for playgrounds not asked for nor approved of by us.

All further necessary information as to the work of the department during the past year will be found in the accompanying report of our superintendent.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. STRATTON,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY,

Commissioners.

January 31, 1909.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO CHARLES E. STRATTON, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST, and
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit a report of the work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year 1908:

FRANKLIN PARK.

By the rapid growth of the trees, the young plantations throughout the park system are fast assuming the character of woodlands. This is especially noticeable in Franklin Park, where the oaks, beeches, maples, etc., which were planted as saplings nine to twelve years ago, now range from 15 to 30 feet in height. The pines and hemlocks, too, show a corresponding excellent growth. These good results have been brought about by a thorough use of the horse cultivator, in loosening the surface of the ground under the trees, for four or five years after planting. The results would have been still more pronounced had our finances enabled us to continue this process to a later date. Five or six years ago the plantations were seeded down, and since then only such hand cultivation as our appropriation would allow has been given to individual trees.

The old spring at Abbotswood, having become unfit for drinking purposes during the past summer, was abandoned and the flow cut off. The fountain was then moved inward from the walk and connected with the city supply. A space was reserved around the fountain for fixed seats, to form a rendezvous or rest, and a convenient walk, connecting the fountain with Canterbury street, was constructed.

A constantly increasing number of visitors come to Franklin

Park, especially on Sundays, when the links, the meadows and the woodlands are well besprinkled with groups of people.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

The lack of funds prevented the rebuilding of the remainder of the settled portion of the boundary wall. The usual maintenance work was done.

THE FENS, RIVERWAY AND OLMSTED PARK.

During the past year these parks and parkways received nothing more than the ordinary maintenance attention. Considerable filling has been received at the new Fens playground, at a cost only of the labor required to grade it. An area of four or five acres is now graded to a surface fine enough for play, and is much used by the pupils of the group of school buildings near by.

Your superintendent would again call the attention of your board to the sterile character of the Fens filling, which is a water-washed coarse sand and gravel, overlaid with only a thin covering of loam, and the necessity of reinforcing the loam covering. Under the present conditions good tree growth cannot be produced, and in many parts even the shrubbery is much stunted. From the same cause the Norway maples lining the roadways, which are intended to provide shade for the drives and walks, are barely existing.

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE.

In that portion of Commonwealth avenue lying between Brookline avenue and the Newton city line, the preparation of the ground and the continuation of the work of planting shade trees had to be deferred, no appropriation having been made to continue this important work. For the same reason road repairs were discontinued. In consequence, the drive-ways between Brookline and Brighton avenues are in bad condition. Those portions of the avenue that have been



SCARBORO POND. — FRANKLIN PARK.

resurfaced since the avenue was placed in your charge are in good condition, in spite of the hard usage to which they are subjected by fast-driven automobiles.

CHARLESBANK.

The Charles River Basin Commission not occupying so much of our ground last year as previously, in its operations in the Charles river, the usefulness as well as the enjoyment of this popular park and playground was not so much interfered with as in the preceding two years.

Under the wise supervision of Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells and Mrs. Anna Phillips Williams, whose report will be found elsewhere, the women's gymnasium and the children's playground in connection with Charlesbank have had a very successful season. The total attendance at the men's gymnasium for the season was 141,200.

WOOD ISLAND PARK.

This much appreciated breathing spot for the people of East Boston continues to increase in attractiveness. The trees with which the slopes are planted are making a fine growth and afford a fair measure of shade. The ball ground, the cricket creases and the tennis courts are well patronized. The attendance in the men's outdoor gymnasium for the season was 34,600. In winter the gymnasium and ball grounds are flooded for skating and many enjoy the sport. Only the ordinary work of maintenance was performed at this park during the past season.

MARINE PARK, CASTLE ISLAND AND STRANDWAY.

On account of the cooling breezes from the bay, this part of the park system, during the summer, is the most used. The opening of Fort Independence to the public has furnished an additional object of interest to visitors at Castle Island. The parade ground within the fort will, when

graded a little, serve admirably as a playground. The casemates, now open, give much needed shelter during sudden storms.

The work of filling the pond at Marine Park progresses slowly, on account of the scarcity of filling and the large amount required, the depth of the pond being about twenty-eight feet. Nearly one-half of the area is filled. When the filling is completed a most useful recreation ground of about four acres will be added to the park.

Although a late storm broke a number of willows and poplars at Marine Park, the long stretch of trees and shrubs on the Strandway is doing well, notwithstanding the bleakness of the situation.

The boat service between Castle Island and Marine Park was conducted on schedule time last season.

CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS PARK, CHESTNUT HILL PARK, WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY, DORCHESTER PARK, COPP'S HILL TERRACES AND BERNERS SQUARE.

Only the regular work of maintenance was done during the past season.

PARKWAYS AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PARKWAYS.

Road maintenance is a matter of much greater importance and consideration than it was before the advent of the automobile. Roads that would stand under the pressure of the greatest weight of ordinary horse-drawn traffic, or the pounding of the swiftly driven horses attached to light vehicles, now rapidly disintegrate under the traction and twisting action of the hind wheels of automobiles when driven at a rapid rate. A speed of 15 or 16 miles an hour can be provided for on a good macadam road, but for a speed exceeding this some other form of road is necessary or some method of more strongly bonding macadam roads must be devised. Tar has been tried for this purpose but the results have not been satisfactory. Asphal-

tum, doubtless, would last longer as a binding for roads than tar. These materials, however, depend on the oils which enter into their composition to retain their plasticity; when they volatilize, their bonding properties are lost and the road disintegrates. A concrete of crushed stone and Portland cement, possibly, is the best material of which the coming road may have to be made to stand the wear and tear of automobile travel, which will include among its probabilities the movement of heavy traffic.

For park roads, or roads used for light traveling, including automobiling, a Portland cement concrete road, finished off with a roughened face, to enable it to hold a surfacing of dead sand, and the sand oiled, would, I think, prove satisfactory. This belief is founded on the results of an experiment, made on the surface of a piece of bitulithic pavement, where the rough, worn surface of the tar concrete was so covered, and formed when oiled a most pleasant driving surface.

From lack of funds your department has not been able to maintain its parkways in the state of repair necessary for pleasure driving. For ten years past the roads have been softened with water, then rolled down to a smooth surface, until, in many places, this process cannot be carried any further, as these places are worn to the foundations, which crop up above the surface. This is especially noticeable in the Riverway and Fenway, which need resurfacing between Huntington avenue in the Riverway, and Huntington entrance in the Fens. Commonwealth avenue requires about eight miles of resurfacing. Such roads as we have been able to resurface in the past three years have been kept in very good condition by the use of a coating of dead sand, held in a semi-moist condition by sprinkling it with an emulsion of petroleum containing a heavy asphaltum base. If this light cushion of oiled sand is kept intact, little wear or damage will be done to the surface of the road. This can be proved by a stretch of road so treated on Commonwealth avenue,

between Warren street and the Newton city line, which has been under the constant pounding of high-speeding automobiles since it was resurfaced two years ago.

The oiling of the roads for dust suppression may now be considered a success. The cost per square yard for the season of 1908 was \$0.0184, or \$323.84 per mile of road 30 feet wide, as against a cost of \$0.0213 per square yard for the season of 1907, or \$374.88 per mile of road 30 feet wide. Watering, which lays the dust indifferently, cost your department (computed from observations and estimates by Mr. Putnam) about \$680 per mile of road 30 feet wide, or more than twice the cost of oiling.

The following table shows the cost of the maintenance of roads for the past seven years, together with the average cost for the seven years. This table includes all labor, teaming, road repairs and oiling for the suppression of dust.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.						
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street	60,600	\$0.216	\$0.244	\$0.215	\$0.242	.....	\$0.218	
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line	203,700	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.083	
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line	264,800	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.211	.122	\$0.131
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road, and Marine Park	372,800	.075	.079	.105	.092	.121	.120	.067
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum	210,100	.079	.079	.074	.076	.068	.068	.023
Average	847,200	\$0.091	\$0.096	\$0.105	\$0.101	\$0.136	\$0.108	\$0.073

Average cost of maintenance per annum for seven years of all park roads except at Chestnut Hill Park, \$0.106 per square yard.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.
COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1902 TO 1908, INCLUSIVE.

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA.	COST PER ACRE.						
	Acres.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
1. { Commonwealth avenue Commonwealth avenue with extension to Newton line	*30.0	\$698	\$713	\$628	\$691			
	112.7					\$553	\$376	\$465
2. Fens	115.0	124	126	145	120	169	170	148
3. Riverway	40.0	288	362	321	384	427	450	324
4. Olmsted Park	180.0	128	131	117	129	150	166	138
5. Arborway	36.0	196	190	217	269	300	363	359
6. Arnold Arboretum	223.0	27	22	26	25	33	31	18
7. West Roxbury Parkway	150.0	8	3	3	7	7	21	12
8. Franklin Park	527.0	110	111	97	103	106	139	115
9. Columbia road	31.2	140	131	227	233	295	276	174
10. Strandway	71.3	4	14	42	60	125	177	161
11. Marine Park	52.5	125	118	111	175	174	231	230
12. Wood Island Park	55.6	118	131	121	143	159	184	179
13. Charlesbank	10.0	1,096	1,100	1,003	933	959	1,161	1,483
14. Trinity Triangle	0.12	18		184		11	77	43
15. Charlestown Heights	6.1	452	369	307	417	489	579	607
16. Charlestown Playground	14.0	109	111	113	107	127	110	111
17. Dorchester Park	26.0	22	18	44	51	69	67	79
18. Franklin Field	77.0	113	78	72	91	92	112	113
19. Copp's Hill Terraces	0.6	586	817	823	647	776	1,498	1,255
20. Chestnut Hill Park	55.4	67	92	79	106	113	119	108
21. North Brighton Playground	14.0	142	76	75	93	99	175	241
22. Neponset Playground	18.0	86	43	76	80	75	77	87
23. Billings Field	11.0	160	93	102	88	92	112	77
24. First Street Playground	4.6	229	241	631	448	519	677	718
25. Prince Street Playground	0.4	590	739	2,042	2,257	2,607	2,511	2,938
26. Mystic Playground	2.3	750	328	286	352	497	422	638
27. Fellows Street Playground	0.85	1,732	806	535	814	1,122	1,184	1,255
28. Christopher Gibson Play- ground	5.8	374	296	258	301	279	261	279

* At the end of 1905, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line, under the care of the Park Department, making the total improved area of parks, playgrounds and roads now maintained 1,896 acres.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS—*Concluded.*

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA.	COST PER ACRE.						
	Acres.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
29. Columbus Avenue Play-ground.....	5.0	629	393	323	453	459	333	396
30. Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	20	.....	24	332	439	422	333
31. Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	157	108	194	160	328	269	299
32. Roslindale Playground.....	3.7	413	160	203	235	216	269	199
33. Forest Hills Playground....	9.6	14	32	130	86	59	29	81
34. Rogers Park.....	6.9	164	131	48	167	220	246	125
35. Cottage Street Playground..	3.8	86	37	122	181	193	337	374
36. Randolph Street Play-ground.....	2.8	.....	.....	455	725	609	887	1,197
37. Marcella Street Playground,	5.1	.....	64	272	315	608	480	594
38. Commonwealth Playground.	8.1	.....	8	.....	5	71	59	120
39. Oak square.....	0.22	176	368	58	118	93	.....	.....
40. Berners square	1.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Average	1,813.3	\$121	\$112	\$111	\$124	\$163	\$162	\$155

GYPSY AND BROWN-TAIL MOTHS.

These pests show no signs of diminution; in fact, the gypsy moth is increasing in numbers and spreading more widely over New England, and, unless diseases or parasites come to aid, the scourge may as easily extend over the whole country. There may be even now, by transportation by rail of the larvæ or eggs of the insects, hundreds of colonies established in various parts of the United States, not reported because not recognized. They may be controlled, if not exterminated, in cities and towns, as we are able to control them in the park system, by creosoting the egg masses or by spraying the foliage with a poisonous solution, and thus kill the larvæ. Expenditures in the Park Department for moth suppression amounted to \$11,662 in 1907, and \$11,092 in 1908. We now have seven power spraying machines and shall need two additional machines this season to meet the invasion of these pests from outside territory.



SCARBORO HILL. — FRANKLIN PARK.

SPORTS.

Of all the sports for which the Park Department provides facilities, baseball takes the lead. In the various parks there are seventy-three regularly laid out diamonds, with permanent backstops; canvas bases are furnished to the players. Tennis ranks next, for which game one hundred and two courts are laid out, including the posts for the nets. Twenty-four football fields were marked out and equipped with goal posts last year. Although the past season was a poor one for making ice, it is estimated that about 255,000 persons enjoyed the sport of skating on the various skating areas in the department. Five cricket creases were kept in order for this game, which is increasing in popularity very fast. Lack of continued cold weather was disastrous to the game of curling; on only two or three days could the game be played. The weather, too, was not suited to a successful tobogganing season. The two chutes were, however, well patronized when the sport was good, and on busy evenings a wait of ten minutes for a chance to coast was sometimes necessary. The total number who enjoyed the sport is estimated at 18,975 during the season. The bowling green, with its area of 126 feet square, seemed to contribute to the pleasure of more persons, relatively to its size, than any other sport; its capacity was strained last year. The attendance of golfers on the links amounted last season to 17,050, as against 16,532 in 1907. No charge is made by the department to anyone participating in the sports for which provision is made. Locker and bathing privileges are also free, except at Marine Park, where a small charge is made by the lessee from the city for the use of a suit and closet.

FRANKLIN FIELD.

Talbot and Blue Hill avenues.

(77 Acres.)

On account of the lack of funds, the sanitary accommodations and plumbing are still lacking in the field house, and an

appropriation for these and for some necessary grading is much to be desired. The house, however, served well for shelter and for locker privileges. The increasing use of Franklin Field will soon make necessary the grading of a part of the old nursery, to add to the area of ground available for play. With this in mind, studies will at once be made for the consideration of your Board. Besides the facilities offered in this fine field for summer sports, about thirty acres are flooded in winter for skating.

The nursery, which occupies a part of Franklin Field, contains about 22,469 shrubs and 14,241 trees, which are in good condition for transplanting into the parks.

CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAYGROUND.

Dorchester avenue and Park street.

(5.8 Acres.)

This playground is equipped for baseball, football, quoits, tennis, jumping the bar and putting the shot. A portion of the grounds is also laid off for a children's corner, which is in charge of a female teacher. The playground is provided with a building for shelter and sanitary accommodations. Grading and fencing are much needed.

SAVIN HILL BEACH AND PLAYGROUND.

Springdale and Denny streets, Dorchester.

(18.6 Acres.)

This beach is a popular bathing place, where closets are furnished to women and lockers to men and boys, which are free to all who bring towels and suits. These closets and lockers have a capacity, at one time, for eight hundred bathers, or an average of about three thousand at each tide.

During the past season an appropriation of five thousand dollars was expended for grading the playground, which lies behind the bath houses. The site of the playground was a

salt meadow, which the filling and grading made available for ball playing. This area was flooded during the past winter for skating. An appropriation is needed for sanding the bathing beach and for filling to strengthen the dike.

NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.

Neponset avenue.

(18 Acres.)

Only a part of this playground has been covered with loamy gravel and graded for ball playing. The demand is for more space available for play, and an appropriation for this purpose is desirable.

This playground contains a children's corner, with apparatus, supervised by a female teacher. A building containing sanitary accommodations is provided. Skating is enjoyed in winter.

MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.

Chelsea street and Mystic river.

(2.3 Acres.)

Equipped with a children's corner, containing simple apparatus, under the care of a female teacher. The playground has space for a small diamond for boys. Sanitary accommodations are much needed.

ROGERS PARK.

Lake and Foster streets.

(6.9 Acres.)

A clump of Babylonian willows across the upland of Rogers Park, together with a stretch of sloping lawn, has a pleasing, restful effect. The playground area, which contains two baseball diamonds, could be considerably enlarged were a brook that runs across one corner put underground in a culvert. Shelter and sanitary accommodations are much needed. An appropriation for these requirements and for the preparation of the ground and the planting of trees around the boundaries of the playground is necessary.

NORTH BRIGHTON PLAYGROUND.
 Western avenue and North Harvard street.
(14 Acres.)

A part of this playground has been filled and graded to make it available for sports. A building furnishes locker and sanitary accommodations. A quoit ground with clay ends is railed off in one corner. The graded area contains space for three baseball diamonds or for football; a skating area is also provided in winter. Appropriations are needed for filling and grading for playground extension, and for the preparation of the ground and the planting of bordering shade trees.

BILLINGS FIELD.
 La Grange street, near Centre street, West Roxbury.
(11 Acres.)

The plantation of trees on the Bellevue street slope is progressing finely, and will soon afford abundant shade for onlookers of the games. Provision is made for ball playing, tennis and skating. A sanitary and locker building is needed. The body of the field has been filled on a peat bed, which has given considerable trouble by unequal settlements from the pressure of the overlaid filling.

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.
 South, Walter and Robert streets.
(3.7 Acres.)

On this much-used playground facilities for ball playing, tennis and skating are provided. A sanitary and locker building is needed.

COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAYGROUND.
 Columbus avenue and Camden street.
(5 Acres.)

This playground contains space for four baseball diamonds and a children's playground. Ice for skating is furnished in winter.

For several years past this playground has been under the control of a committee of the Civic League, which equipped the children's playground with apparatus and with teachers. This charge was given up by the League last spring

Sanitary accommodations are much needed here, also a large amount of repairs.

PRINCE STREET PLAYGROUND.

Prince and North Bennet streets.

(0.4 Acres.)

This little recreation area has six or seven schoolhouses within 350 feet of its center. Its equipment of teeter boards, swings and sand boxes is in constant use by the children. A female teacher is in charge during the summer months. Sanitary accommodations are needed.

FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner of M street, South Boston.

(4.6 Acres.)

This playground contains a well-equipped outdoor gymnasium; a building with locker, bathing and sanitary accommodations; and a ball field with space for two diamonds. Ice is furnished in winter for skating.

FELLOWS STREET PLAYGROUND.

Fellows and Hunneman streets.

(0.85 Acre.)

Contains a handball court of two stalls. It is equipped also with a shelter, swings and other simple apparatus for children's use. A female teacher is in charge. Sanitary accommodations are much needed.

COTTAGE STREET PLAYGROUND.

Near Maverick street, East Boston.

(3.85 Acres.)

Equipped with a children's corner and shelter, also a building, which was erected during the past season, contain-

ing sanitary accommodations. There is space for three baseball diamonds and a quaiting ground which occupies one corner. Ice for skating is furnished in winter.

FOREST HILLS AND MOUNT HOPE PLAYGROUND.

Between Washington and Florence streets.

(9.6 Acres.)

A fine piece of land, which, by simple drainage, has been made fairly available for ball games. Grading would improve the ground, but sanitary and locker accommodations are more necessary.

MARCELLA STREET PLAYGROUND.

Corner Ritchie street.

(5.1 Acres.)

This playground is equipped for ball games, and, being located in a populous district, is much used. Lockers and spray baths for men and women are now installed in the building, which also contains sanitary accommodations. The slope of the ground, being over 2 feet per 100 feet, will not permit of flooding for skating. The removal of the ledge outcrop in the grounds would add much needed space for sports.

RANDOLPH STREET PLAYGROUND.

Albany and Randolph streets.

(2.8 Acres.)

This convenient and compact playground contains a building with sanitary and bathing accommodations. A large room in the upper story has been refloored and now serves well for an indoor gymnasium for children. Under the supervision of the ladies of the South End House, a number of working girls spend the noon hour in the gymnasium.

One corner of the playground is fitted up for a children's corner, which contains simple apparatus. This is under



RANDOLPH STREET PLAYGROUND.

the charge of a female teacher. The remainder of the playground is fitted out for baseball diamonds. Ice is furnished in winter for skating.

COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.

C, D and Cypher streets, South Boston.

(8.07 Acres.)

This playground has sanitary accommodations and a large space for baseball playing; the grounds are also flooded for skating in winter.

CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.

Main and Alford streets.

(14 Acres.)

The outdoor gymnasium in this playground is now completed. It contains within its fence a varied assortment of apparatus. The playground also contains a handball court and four baseball diamonds. Skating is provided in winter. A building containing sanitary and locker accommodations is much needed.

STRANDWAY PLAYGROUND.

Columbia road, opposite Newman street.

(14 Acres.)

The filling of the flats by the Street Cleaning and Sanitary Divisions, together with filling received from contractors for excavations, during the past nine years, has progressed so rapidly that the department now has an area of 12 acres, which is already graded for playground purposes.

A portion of the grounds is set apart for the use of children, where teeter boards, tilting ladders and other simple apparatus are furnished. A female teacher is in attendance. A large part of the ground is flooded in winter for skating.

ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.

Brent street, near Talbot avenue.

(2.2 Acres.)

This playground, planted around with trees, and equipped for flooding for skating in winter and for ball playing in summer, is much used. Shelter and locker accommodations are needed.

In the execution of the work of the department it is with pleasure that I testify to the loyal and efficient support I have received from Charles E. Putnam, engineer, and from Messrs. James B. Shea, John W. Duncan and Ralph W. Curtis, assistant superintendents.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. PETTIGREW,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN:—Any report of the work at Charlesbank during the past year must bear a strong similarity to any record of the last two or three years, for the difference lies not so much in the kind of work done as in the nationality of the women and children who come to the Lodge, the green and the outdoor gymnasium. Ten years ago the gymnasts were usually big girls and young unmarried women. To-day they are children,—and the difference in amount of gymnastic work pursued is explainable by the earlier marriages of the southern races who come to this country as compared with the more native born who used to frequent the gymnasium. It follows naturally again that the number of babies to be seen at Charlesbank has greatly increased, and fortunate is it for the future health of those babies that they can lie around on the green or sleep in their baby carriages under the trees.

A difference is to be seen also in the "occupations" followed. There is now less desire among the children to read; even the fun of cutting out pictures has its limitations, though, when cut, pasting them onto blank paper for home ornament is always permissible. It is *dramatics* that have taken the place of former staid enjoyments. The rapid improvised adaptation by the foreign-born children of stories they hear or read is remarkable, as they create the "scenario" of a story out of a ragged curtain, tissue paper dresses and broken dolls, cups and toys. Dramatics on the green in summer and dramatics in the Lodge in winter.

Dancing to the music of a hurdy-gurdy, however, holds an equal charm with dramatics and is now a part of the regular summer enjoyment. Croquet is another delight, superior to

swinging and never wearisome, though it always needs instruction in how to behave as well as in how to play. In the gymnasium proper class and free hand work are in perpetual evidence and are skillfully performed. Baths have greatly increased in number as children have learnt to take off their hair ribbons in making ready for spray baths.

The summer attendance averages about the same each year only it is never less, just a little more. In winter the evening classes increase in attendance (forty to fifty) until the approach of Christmas when the girls are busier in the stores. After the holidays the number remains steady at about thirty. Those who come are young women of bright intelligence and good manners, with an earnest desire for physical improvement.

The doings of the children, every afternoon and all day on Saturdays, abound in amusing and pathetic incidents such as arise everywhere, woven out of their experience in games, swings, books and dramatics.

The peculiar excellence of Charlesbank consists in its being an all-the-year-round home for children and women, independent of their own houses or tenements, where not under school discipline they are yet expected to be well mannered, clean and truthful; and they succeed fairly well by continuous effort.

They all are attached to the superintendent, Miss Ann I. Loftus, who is often a welcome guest in their homes, thus strengthening the influence she has gained over them in the Lodge and gymnasium. Miss Quinlan, the assistant summer superintendent, has a special knack in playing games with the children and in obtaining good gymnastic work from them. The committee of ladies still continues to find ever fresh interest in supervising Charlesbank, for there is no end to the minor improvements and little kindnesses which it is within their scope to enforce.

KATE GANNETT WELLS,
ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS,
Committee.

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1908-09.

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATION.	Balances, January 31, 1908.	Appropriations and Transfers, 1908-09.	Total Credits.	Expenditures, 1908-09.	Balances, January 31, 1909.
Park Department, maintenance.....		*\$309,640 34	\$309,640 34	\$309,008 32	†\$632 02
Marine Park, pier head.....	\$2,490 19	.....	2,490 19	822 91	1,667 28
Castle Island, sanitary and shelter.....	708 15	.....	708 15	662 66	45 49
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths.....	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus.....	2,983 75	.....	2,983 75	2,424 34	559 41
Franklin Field, speedway.....	2,848 20	.....	2,848 20	2,352 24	495 96
Franklin Field, locker buildings.....	21,298 60	.....	21,298 60	21,298 60	
North Brighton Playground, gymnastic apparatus.....	5,674 82	.....	5,674 82	5,674 82	
First Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.....	4,040 24	.....	4,040 24	2,236 15	1,804 09
Fellows Street Playground, handball court.....	482 23	.....	482 23	.....	482 23
Savin Hill Playground, grading and improvements.....	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	
Playground, Wards 7 and 9.....	17,349 55	.....	17,349 55	456 93	16,892 62
Playground, Ward 9, bleachers.....	426 59	.....	426 59	.....	426 59
Marcella Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.....	4,500 00	.....	4,500 00	499 22	4,000 78
Ward 22 Playground.....	1,699 20	.....	1,699 20	1,699 20	
Commonwealth Playground.....	2,192 12	.....	2,192 12	.....	2,192 12
Cottage Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, lockers, etc.....	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00	4,307 97	692 03
Playground, Orient Heights.....	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00
Playground, Parker Hill.....	60,000 00	.....	60,000 00	.....	60,000 00
Playgrounds, Ward 13.....	25,000 00	.....	25,000 00	.....	25,000 00
Playground, Ward 17.....	80,000 00	.....	80,000 00	.....	80,000 00
Savin Hill Park.....	35,000 00	.....	35,000 00	.....	35,000 00
	\$311,693 64	\$309,640 34	\$621,333 98	\$356,443 36	\$264,890 62

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$9,640.34.

† Balance merged at end of financial year.

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance from

PARKS.	Roads.	Walks.	Grounds.	Buildings.
Commonwealth avenue.....	\$33,714 53	\$1,996 36	\$3,213 64	
The Fens.....	4,657 23	660 86	6,647 35	\$697 36
Riverway.....	3,958 98	281 36	3,552 95	1,551 97
Olmsted Park.....	4,967 75	649 92	8,684 42	2,220 40
Arborway.....	3,739 66	88 35	5,751 53	
Arnold Arboretum.....	2,076 16	326 80		430 97
West Roxbury Parkway.....			929 29	47 12
Franklin Park.....	2,572 03	2,378 70	21,792 03	9,436 22
Columbia road.....	3,551 12	90 58	397 14	
Strandway.....	2,523 42	131 63	5,061 91	1,699 81
Marine Park.....	882 06	1,223 16	5,557 74	1,562 05
Wood Island Park.....	249 76	199 65	2,511 95	896 98
Charlesbank.....		119 16	3,662 00	
Trinity Triangle.....		4 50		
Charlestown Heights.....		317 04	1,698 57	722 53
Charlestown Playground.....		74 18	727 23	
Dorchester Park.....			1,358 09	32 25
Franklin Field.....	454 69		2,777 63	4,638 02
Copp's Hill terraces.....		6 00	554 41	
Chestnut Hill Park.....	1,280 28	78 09	2,803 05	10 70
North Brighton Playground.....		18 87	634 09	2,423 47
Neponset Playground.....		10 00	563 24	75 69
Billings Field.....			397 59	
First Street Playground.....		6 74	727 04	1,277 10
Prince Street Playground.....			555 86	
Mystic Playground.....		31 50	613 67	
Fellows Street Playground.....		29 13	470 75	
Christopher Gibson Playground.....			463 17	298 54
Columbus Avenue Playground.....		18 85	914 82	268 31
Ashmont Playground.....			348 94	
Savin Hill Playground.....			279 65	208 94
Roslindale Playground.....			340 07	
Forest Hills Playground.....			433 37	
Rogers Park.....		24 49	498 72	
Berners square.....			2 10	
Cottage Street Playground, Ward 2.....		4 50	502 72	421 66
Randolph Street Playground.....		4 50	722 58	535 88
Marcella Street Playground.....		23 28	1,248 11	798 73
Commonwealth Park.....		4 50	362 72	23 25
Office expense.....				
Miscellaneous.....				
Moths.....				
	\$64,627 67	\$8,802 70	\$87,760 14	\$30,277 95

February 1, 1908, to January 31, 1909.

General.	Drainage.	Walls.	Sheep and Water Fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Office Expense and Moths.	Totals.
\$11,834 41								\$50,758 94
4,094 08	\$383 32		\$419 14	\$2 11				17,561 45
2,841 58								12,186 84
5,384 94			419 64	442 56				22,669 63
2,912 18								12,491 72
930 62		\$227 32						3,991 87
296 82								1,273 23
12,574 14	230 47		1,802 93	3,149 93				53,936 45
1,237 90								5,266 74
3,107 01				707 79		\$94 25		13,325 82
2,810 81	5 45			14 00				12,055 27
2,257 87				330 21	\$3,237 02			9,683 44
3,356 21				64 10	4,099 06	3,094 26		14,394 79
								4 50
838 12				17 20				3,593 46
370 86				259 43				1,589 15
462 83				130 50	77 87	79 58		1,983 87
3,094 67			786 09	1,225 74				12,886 84
170 86								731 27
1,284 37				51 15				5,507 64
1,303 23	126 08			389 84		364 07		5,159 90
352 97				300 99		209 54		1,512 43
192 20				233 03				822 82
768 66				409 87	106 12			3,295 53
296 47						319 05		1,141 38
341 35				106 85		369 22		1,462 59
241 88						394 14		1,035 90
361 94				200 00		227 25		1,650 90
448 06				80 70		189 57		1,920 31
165 29				193 16				707 39
496 00				1,141 35				2,125 94
165 30				208 62				713 99
129 25				23 06				595 68
198 67				128 67				850 55
								2 10
373 47				298 01				1,600 36
761 44				439 19		800 96		3,264 55
955 16				182 06				2,937 34
219 72				330 65				940 84
							\$3,262 53	8,262 53
							2,120 26	2,120 26
							11,092 61	11,092 61
\$67,041 34	\$745 27	\$227 32	\$3,427 80	\$11,060 77	\$7,520 07	\$6,141 89	\$21,475 40	\$309,008 32

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction from February 1, 1908, to January 31, 1909.

	Drainage.	Grading.	Water Supply.	Buildings.	Gymnasium Apparatus and Fences.	Filling.	Grand Stand.	Totals.
Marine Park.....				\$822 91				\$822 91
Castle Island.....				662 66				662 66
Charlestown Playground.....			\$410 97		\$2,013 37			2,424 34
Franklin Field.....				21,298 60				21,298 60
Speedway, Franklin Field.....	\$229 77	\$478 23			25 50		\$1,618 74	2,352 24
North Brighton Playground.....	858 03	16 75		4,800 04				5,674 82
First Street Playground.....				1,158 52	1,077 63			2,236 15
Marcella Street Playground.....	106 75			2,091 67				2,198 42
Randolph Street Playground.....					456 93			456 93
Cottage Street Playground.....				4,304 47	3 50			4,307 97
Savin Hill Playground.....	325 17	1,691 76	131 54	158 50		\$2,693 03		5,000 00
Totals.....	\$1,519 72	\$2,186 74	\$542 51	\$35,297 37	\$3,576 93	\$2,693 03	\$1,618 74	\$47,435 04

INCOME.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year	\$178 70
Received for labor	9,466 14
Received from sale of buildings, wool, sheep, grass, wood, etc.	902 47
Rents	2,037 92
	<u>\$12,585 23</u>

PAYMENTS.

Appropriation Park Department	\$9,640 34
Income carried to General City Income	2,944 89
	<u>\$12,585 23</u>

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1909.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Asses- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Jan. 31, 1909.
Public Park, Back Bay..	\$434,800 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor...	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River,	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury,	154,107 00	113,658 00	40,449 00	31,763 00	8,686 00
" Dorchester....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,546 98</u>	<u>\$397,206 02</u>	<u>\$383,544 30</u>	<u>\$13,661 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1909 \$16,333,910 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund, January 31, 1909 7,182,629 10
 Net Debt, January 31, 1909 \$9,151,281 88

Park Statistics to January 31, 1909.

Parks.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM.									
Commonwealth avenue...	1894-1905	.....	\$121,607 93	\$121,607 93	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles		
Fens.....	1877-1879	\$596,254 49	2,150,875 44	2,747,129 93	115 "	4 "	6.7 "	1.1 miles	22 acres
* Riverway.....	1890	457,457 53	674,109 35	1,131,566 88	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.2 "	8 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890 and 1892	1,081,947 60	734,373 59	1,816,321 19	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.6 "	77 "
Arboretum.....	1892	245,584 25	381,793 81	627,378 06	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "	
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882 and 1895	79,354 15	388,372 84	467,726 99	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....	0.6 acre
West Roxbury Parkway...	1894	135,265 29	22,123 21	157,388 50	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "	
Franklin Park.....	1883 and 1884	1,551,896 63	2,428,919 40	3,980,816 03	527 "	7.3 "	14.9 "	1 mile	7.4 acres
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899	447,528 63	540,511 93	988,040 56					
Dorchesterway.....	1892	63,735 54	65,187 12	128,922 66	{102.5 " land 104 " flats}	4.2 "	4.5 "		
Strandway.....	{1890, 1892, 1897 and 1901}	772,515 12	380,558 96	1,163,074 08					
Marine Park.....	1883	232,972 57	1,069,306 17	1,292,278 74	{52.5 " land 4.9 " flats}	0.5 mile	1.3 "	.....	3.4 "
Carried forward.....		\$5,664,511 80	\$8,957,739 75	\$14,622,251 55	1,737.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1909.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$5,664,511 80	\$8,957,739 75	\$14,622,251 55	1,737.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
† Castle Island.....	1890	.....	35,640 06	35,640 06	25.7 acres land 78.3 " flats				
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1882 and 1891	132,800 00	259,273 53	392,073 53	55.6 " land 155.4 " flats	0.3 mile	2.1 "		
CHARLESBANK.....	1893	373,916 99	313,448 13	687,365 12	10 acres		1.5 "		
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.12 acre				
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 56	153,645 58	6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats		0.4 mile		
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND,	1891	172,923 31	25,332 60	198,255 91	14 " land 4 " flats		0.6 "		
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	26 "				
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	149,201 94	306,543 16	77 "	0.35 mile	0.35 "		
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	3.7 " land 8 " flats				
COPP'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,858 19	32,001 46	122,859 65	0.6 acre		0.11 "		
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{1898, 1899 (and 1902)}	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles			
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	22,602 77	44,709 89	14 "				
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 39	16,189 35	40,993 74	18 "				
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896	47,068 98	16,758 00	63,826 98	11 "				
|| FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND	1897	.....	29,036 31	29,036 31	4.6 "		0.4 "		
¶ FREEPORT STREET TRI- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre				
<i>Carried forward</i>		\$7,373,688 89	\$10,150,095 51	\$17,523,784 40	2,304.56 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1909.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$7,373,638 89	\$10,150,095 51	\$17,523,734 40	2,304.56 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
PRINCE STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	{1897, 1899 (and 1901)}	180,474 70	434 07	180,908 77	0.4 acre				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,125 00	3,804 41	53,929 41	2.3 acres				
FELLOWS STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	14,503 72	7,032 64	21,536 36	0.85 acre				
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{1899, 1900 {1901, 1902}	327,503 84	18,581 26	346,085 10	5 "				
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	4,000 00	47,990 09	2.2 "				
SAVIN HILL PLAYGROUND....	1899	27,147 30	11,129 36	38,276 66	{ 6.9 acres land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND....	1899	24,825 11	5,992 71	30,817 82	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND..	1902	25,166 75	.....	25,166 75	9.6 "				
COTTAGE STREET PLAY- GROUND, WARD 2.....	1902	47,002 32	7,305 65	54,307 97	3.85 "				
RANDOLPH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	27,241 16	283,681 79	2.8 "				
MARCELLA STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903	.....	31,154 50	31,154 50	5.1 "				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	3,853 11	33,853 11	6.9 "				
<i>Carried forward.</i>.....	.....	\$8,438,527 93	\$10,280,667 13	\$18,719,195 06	2,371.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1909.—Concluded.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>		\$8,438,527 93	\$10,280,667 13	\$18,719,195 06	2,371.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
BEENERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 "				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	682 34	0.22 acre				
COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.....	1905	.....	7,807 88	7,807 88	8.07 acres				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....		245 29	.....	245 29					
General account.....		\$8,438,773 22	\$10,289,452 05	\$18,728,225 27					
Park Nursery.....		.....	73,987 50	73,987 50					
Betterment expenses.....		.....	29,947 07	29,947 07					
		.....	13,356 10	13,356 10					
		\$8,438,773 22	\$10,406,742 72	\$18,845,515 94	2,381.15 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

* An additional area of 16½ acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

1 Transferred to Street Department.

1 25,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

2 Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

3 Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

4 Transferred from School Department by order of the City Council. Approved March 24, 1902.

5 Custody given to city by Statutes 1891, chapter 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.



City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1910



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1910





City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1910



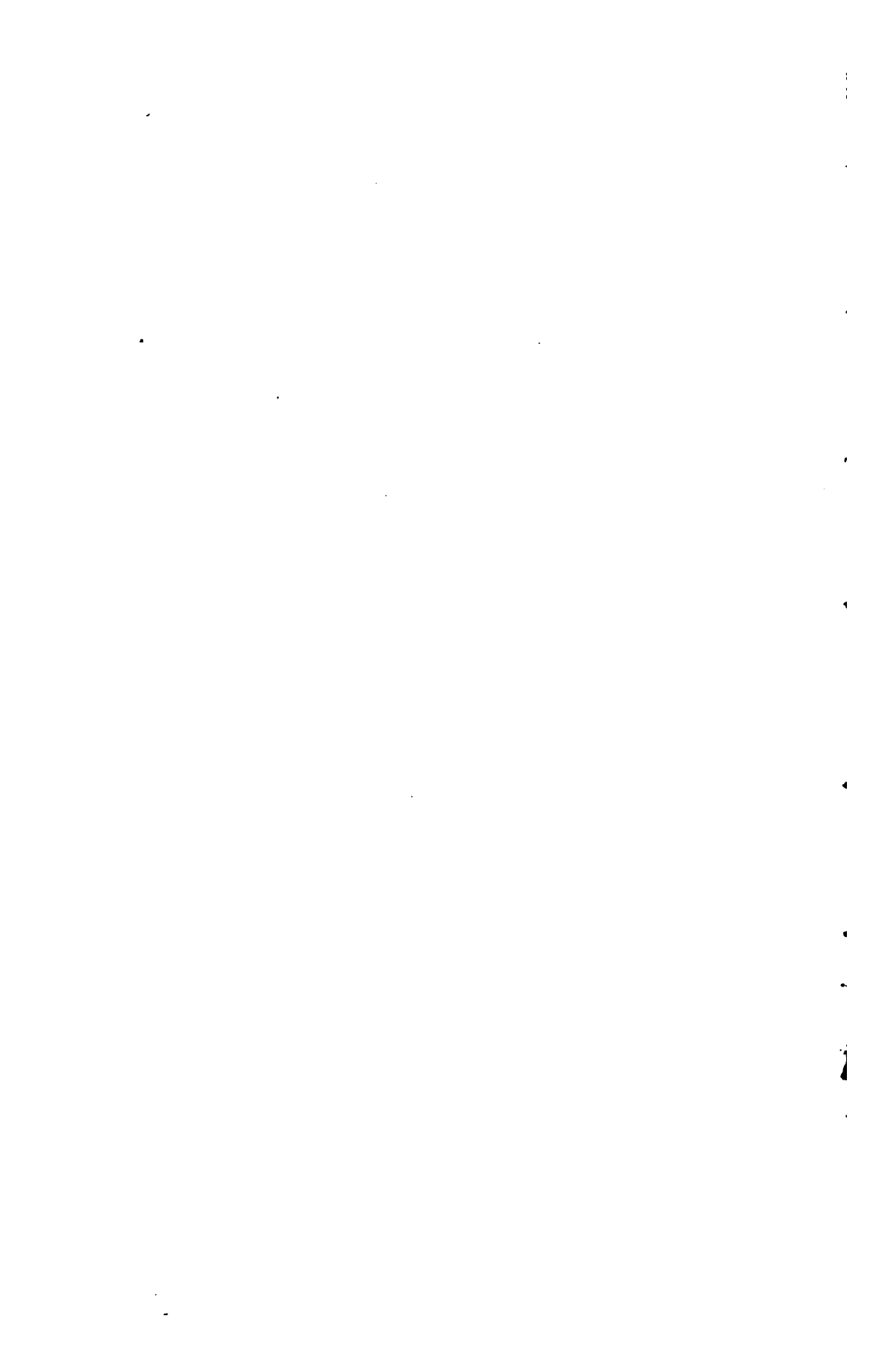
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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,—The Boston Park Commission has the honor to submit herewith its annual report for the year 1909–10.

During the past year the commission has bought land for Savin Hill Park, the William Eustis Playground in Ward 17, two neighborhood playgrounds in South Boston and the playground at Orient Heights. All of these have been obtained for less than the assessed valuation of the land and in each case the balance of the appropriation has gone far toward grading, fencing and completing the grounds.

Locker or sanitary buildings have been designed for Ashmont, Mystic, Roslindale, Columbus avenue, Billings Field and the William Eustis Playgrounds, and these are either under construction or we hope are soon to be begun in whole or in part as the appropriations may permit. We have had the assistance of Mr. William Austin, architect, in the designs of these buildings, working in collaboration with Mr. Putnam, our engineer, who also has looked after the execution of the work.

A large part of the Orient Heights purchase is under water to-day, but several acres will be available this spring, and we have funds enough to complete the filling. We intend, however, to do this filling by degrees as economical opportunity offers and as was done at Charlestown and at the Strandway Playground. In the end we shall have a very large playground at a much cheaper rate than anything else the market offered.

The only appropriation for playground purchase that we have not expended is that for Ward 19. We much desire to make this purchase, but such offer as we have made is refused and we have as yet found no land that we think can be accepted either because the price is too high or the land unsuitable.

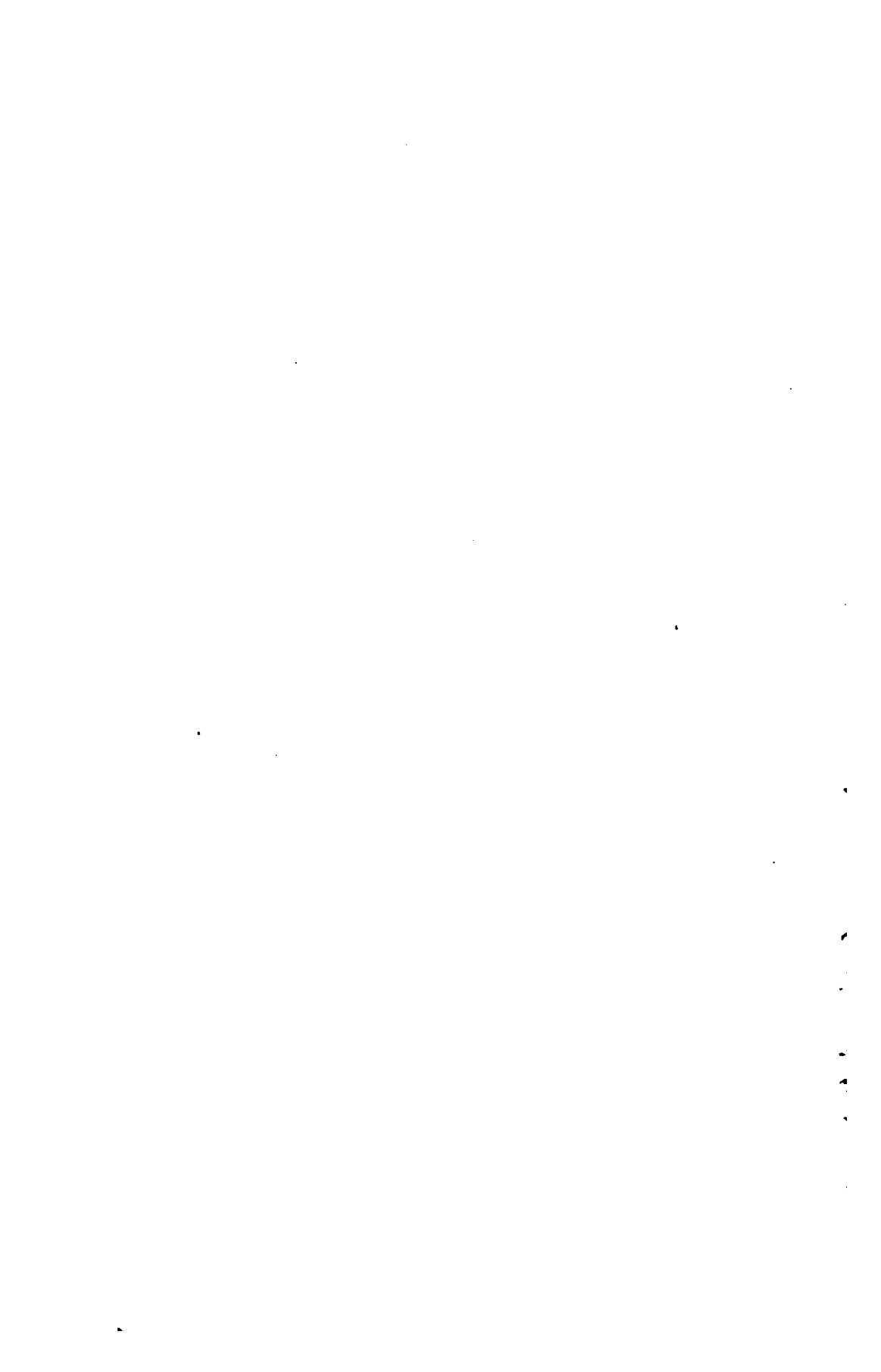
The Park Commission is most anxious to induce increased use of the parks and playgrounds that it administers. The neighboring ocean furnishes constant attraction at Wood Island Park and the Strandway, at Marine Park and Fort Independence. The costly substitution of a filled roadway with a beach of gravel between the two latter or the building of aquaria at City Point (both of which have been urged) would only be adding attractions to parks that already draw vast numbers of visitors.

Franklin Park lacks the presence of the ocean, and the sole fact that it is very beautiful seems insufficient to bring people to it in its fair proportion. It would undoubtedly be more used if automobiles were allowed to enter it, but thus far the commission has been unwilling to surrender to those self-asserting vehicles the quiet and seclusion and safety that the park now possesses. The approach by public conveyance into Franklin Park is from Columbia road entrance, or from Columbus avenue entrance, or from Seaver street, which connects the two on the northern border of the park, or from Forest Hills Station. From Forest Hills Station to the nearest point of the car line running through Seaver street is by the shortest possible route a very long walk for many adults or children. We grant a concession yearly to a firm that during summer weather and when it is profitable run barges at infrequent intervals through the park for a small fare. It might be better if this line were owned and managed by the park to run even at some financial loss between the entrances and through the park at frequent intervals and at all seasons for a slight fare. This would probably open the center of the park to many who cannot now reach it.



By courtesy of The BRICKBUILDER.

ASHMONT PLAYGROUND — LOCKER BUILDING.



Useful as such conveyances would be we, however, also feel an increasing need of some centers of attraction to interest those to whom the loveliness of the landscape is not an adequate lure. If aquaria are built from the Parkman Fund they will be stocked with fresh as well as salt water life and they might quite as well be at Franklin Park as at the parks in South Boston, which have attractions enough. Deer or other animals would please many visitors and in the dovecotes that are now stocked with many varieties of pigeons there is the nucleus of what might be a good collection if they were housed in a suitable inclosure or aviary, to which might be attached the winter quarters of the many swans and ducks that have to be cared for when the ponds are frozen. Another attraction that we can create with little outlay would be a plain, simple out-of-doors garden with all the summer flowers, annual and perennial. Later by the aid of the Parkman Fund there might be added to such a garden lines of hothouses for winter exhibitions. An open-air amphitheater formed in a hillside for band concerts or for meetings or ceremonies would be most useful and be an improvement on the present bandstand, where there is no adequate seating. It might form one step toward the full completion of Mr. Olmsted's original design for "The Greeting," which was to have been the main and culminating feature of his park but which was abandoned for economical reasons. This "Greeting" was to have been a long mall running from Columbia road to "The Playstead," shaded by many rows of tall trees and arranged for promenade on foot or in carriage—or to-day in motor—with the music amphitheater as its central feature. This grand focus of the park design had the cordial approval of Mayor Hibbard and we trust may be undertaken shortly through means of the Parkman Fund; but any or all of these "features" would help to draw people to Franklin Park and once there its intrinsic beauty will surely make them care for it. We hope that when possible funds may be provided to carry them into execution.

Unlike Franklin Park the playgrounds that are in our

charge need no "features" to make them draw the public to them. To visit any one of them on Saturday or other week day afternoons only makes one long for more of them as places of inestimable benefit to the youth of the city. This is true of the large fields where ball playing and all manly sports are conducted with tremendous vigor, or the small neighborhood playgrounds in populous districts where little children and their mothers, escaping from the crowded houses and streets, have a chance to enjoy fresh air and quiet. Visit the playgrounds, however, on Sunday and they are deserted. The boys, so vigorous the day before, are loafing on the corners, and it is well if they are not engaged in chucking pennies. Nothing is doing on the playgrounds. The police would stop any games. In winter we flood these places and for some reason skating is allowed. In Franklin Park we build toboggan slides that can be used on Sunday and hundreds of people gather to see this sport, but in summer there must be no tennis playing nor bowls nor quoits nor cricket even in the afternoon or after church, and even though on private grounds these quiet games are carried on by all classes of society to-day undisturbed. The logic of all this is a little hard to follow, but it appears that skating and tobogganing as "forms of locomotion" fare better than anything that can be called a game. Yankee ingenuity ought to be able to invent more "forms of locomotion" for Sunday use on our playgrounds. Certainly the laws that forbid quiet and unobtrusive games at reasonable hours, whatever may be said of them in other respects, prevent the full use of our playgrounds, and for that reason we should like to see the laws or their enforcement modified.

The commission is somewhat disturbed by the condition of the Fenway. It was originally intended that in case of flood the waters of Stony brook and Muddy river should overflow the low lands throughout the Fenway while awaiting opportunity to reach Charles river at the fall of the tide. Muddy river now flows through the Brookline avenue conduit to the

basin and Stony brook through the new conduit to the river. There are two sets of gates between Charles river and the Fens. When these are open there is nothing to create a current and when they are closed water in the Fens has no exit or entrance and is simply surface water. Besides, the bottom of the ponds in the Fens has never been thoroughly cleaned, and at any time there is likely to be an overflow from Stony brook that should be immediately flushed out of the pond. It is, therefore, only a question of time when there will be trouble. The Basin Commission have intended to install an electric pumping plant to pump from the Fenway into the Brookline avenue conduit, or in some other way into the river, thereby creating a cleansing current on the Fenway which would renew the water once in twenty days, but the appropriation last year was refused. It is much to be hoped it will be granted this year or that some other method of changing this water may be adopted.

But even then much could be done to make the Fens more useful. Their original use as an overflow basin being abandoned there is nothing that prevents this great area, nearly as large as the Common, from being turned into a useful park in some such way as a very useful playground has been redeemed at very little cost from its southern end. A large amount of earth is to be moved before long from the subway tunnels and if this could be placed on the marsh lands of the Fens there would be need of raising them only a little above their present swampy surface to turn them into useful upland through which the stream might still meander as now.

At Savin Hill we hope to fill the spaces where dead and burnt trees stood with new planting and to level off some of the lower land for tennis or other games. The cliffs on this property are very grand and the view is extensive and beautiful. As time goes on this little park will be one of our most attractive possessions.

As pointed out in the report of our superintendent, little has been done towards planting the extension of Common-

wealth avenue beyond its junction with Brookline avenue. Appropriations that have been asked for have been refused. This avenue looks less as if it were in park control than any property under our care, and we greatly desire an opportunity to make it better.

In accordance with the vote of the Park Commission in 1907, the work of renewing the soil throughout the grass plots of Commonwealth avenue from Dartmouth street to Massachusetts avenue was carried out last summer. The soil there was very poor and dust and street sweepings had been whirled upon it by passing vehicles. It is now deep and rich throughout, and the comparatively slight job of moving the trees is to be undertaken at once. The avenue will then assume the appearance that it was originally designed to have.

The park system has now been in operation so long that a considerable number of our laborers are, through infirmity of one or another kind, unable to do such a full day's labor as the same pay would bring from younger men. We believe that the public would not expect us to dismiss such assistants. We also think that to permit shorter hours or lighter work for the same pay would be undesirable for any force. If a retiring pension could be saved from the pay of men in their youth, redeemable at any time, the difficulty might be solved. We have asked the Finance Commission what course as regards such men would meet with their approval.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT S. PEABODY,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY,
Commissioners.

February 7, 1910.



WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY — WHITE OAKS.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO ROBERT S. PEABODY, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST and
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— I herewith submit a report of the work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year 1909.

FRANKLIN PARK.

The plantations of young trees in Franklin Park continue to show the same satisfactory progress. These plantations have been regularly thinned, in order that the trees in their young stages of growth might not injure each other by overcrowding. The soil conditions are excellently suited for tree growth, and within a few years the plantations should assume more the character of old woodlands than of plantations of young trees. This treatment of the thinning out of young plantations need not be continued to the extent of making each tree a specimen of its kind, but only until the trees have attained strength and show some individuality, when the thinning should be done with the view of forming pleasing combinations in groups and masses, having due regard to provision for development and healthy growth. This will allow for a fair measure of individuality in each tree without destroying the mass effects.

Some of the old woodlands, of which The Wilderness, Long Crouch Woods and Abbotswood are examples, are underlaid with rock, with picturesque outcroppings of ledge and large boulders. These areas, by their location and the character of their topography, are eminently fitted for forest growth, but, unfortunately, they are thinly covered with loam and

the growth consequently is stunted. Efforts have been made in the past to remedy this condition by the addition of loam, but, with the exception of the woodlands and bare slopes surrounding the glade, the work has been limited from lack of funds. Now, however, that the Parkman Fund is available for expenditures in Franklin Park the interests of the future call for an appropriation from this fund for the addition of loam to sterile areas on which tree planting or tree growth is clearly indicated.

To meet the requirements for road oil storage, a reinforced Portland cement concrete tank, with a capacity of 25,000 gallons, was constructed in the administration yard. Adjoining this a similar structure was erected for the storage of inflammable oils, varnishes, etc. These are sufficiently distant from the buildings to insure to them a reasonable freedom from risk of danger in case of fire. The enlargement of the administration yard, by cutting into the hillside, has been prosecuted whenever a favorable opportunity occurred for using the excavated material.

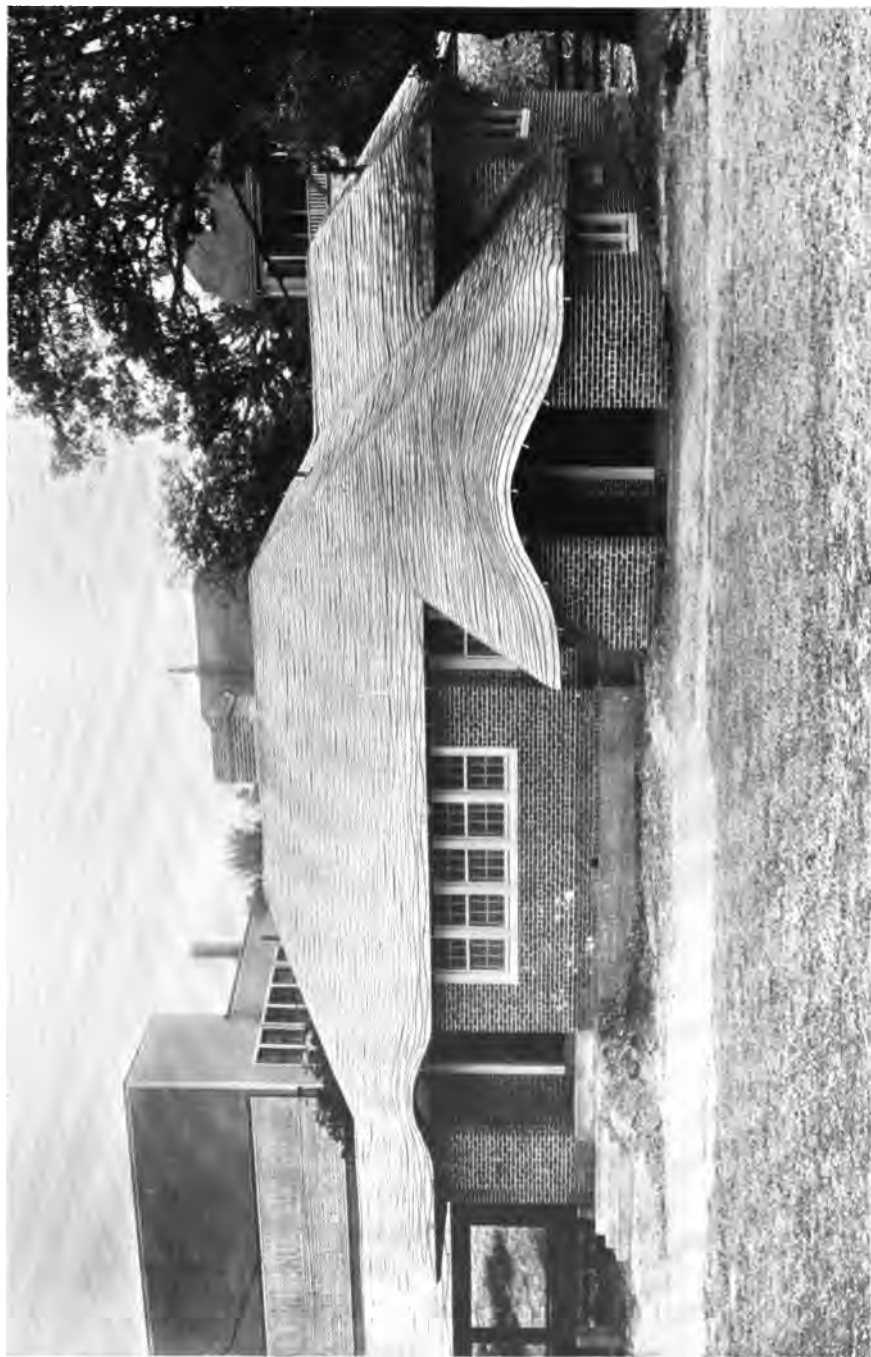
As is usual generally throughout the park system, all diseased or overcrowding trees were cut down and sawed up into lumber or firewood. In the shrubberies, too, much work of renovation, by pruning, removal or replanting, was done during the season. Such attention keeps shrubberies fresh and attractive.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, OLNSTED PARK AND RIVERWAY.

Little other work than that of maintenance was performed. The condition of the young plantations of trees at Olmsted Park and in the Riverway is very satisfactory, oaks, ashes, magnolias and maples showing the remarkable growth of twenty to thirty-five feet in ten years from planting.

THE FENS.

Soil conditions in the Fens preclude the possibility of obtaining free growth in trees. Even its shrubbery is stunted



By courtesy of **THE BRICKBUILDER.**

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND — LOCKER BUILDING.

in growth, planted as it is in a thin layer of loam laid over sterile water-washed gravel. These conditions, however, could be much improved by appropriations for the purchase of loam to reinforce its planted areas. For this purpose the Parkman Fund is available.

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE.

No further appropriation has been made for continuing the work of planting the line trees on that part of Commonwealth avenue west of Beacon street, and it is to be regretted that advantage is not taken of the possibilities of this fine avenue. Its course is laid for miles through a beautiful rolling landscape; yet, with the exception of a row of oaks planted between Brighton avenue and Warren street, it is barren of shade or arboreal charm, other than what may be imparted by trees growing outside of its boundaries. The reverse of this picture is arching vistas of greenery, with shaded drives and walks and the added softening effect of foliage on the hard architectural lines of the houses.

CHARLESBANK AND WOOD ISLAND PARK.

No work other than that of maintenance was performed at these parks.

The attendance at the Charlesbank men's gymnasium was 141,200 for the year and 38,575 at Wood Island Park gymnasium. At the women's gymnasium at Charlesbank the attendance for the year of women and children was 35,000. This part of the Charlesbank was, as usual, ably supervised by Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells and Mrs. Anna Phillips Williams, an account of which in detail will be found elsewhere in this report.

MARINE PARK AND CASTLE ISLAND.

The filling of the large pond in Marine Park progresses slowly, due to the great depth of the water. The material is received from the Street Department without cost to this department,

the only expense incurred being the amount expended in grading. It is expected that the filling will be completed in two years more, when it would then seem wise to begin the filling of the two smaller ponds. Were these areas turf covered they would, with their sheltering backgrounds of trees, prove admirable places for games and sports; such spaces are much needed in Marine Park.

At Castle Island the sanitary accommodations in the fort have been completed and an opening made from the casemates through the wall of the fort to the eastern slope of the island. This will prove very convenient for access to the shelter of the fort in case of storms.

Marine Park and Castle Island deservedly grow in popularity with the people, thousands of whom during the hot weather crowd its promenades and benches to breathe the cool sea breezes.

PARKWAYS AND MAINTENANCE.

It is with regret that I have to report our inability to keep our drives in good condition with our present appropriations. Having no general appropriation for improvement or construction, we are compelled to draw from maintenance account for such works of construction or improvement as may be found to be absolutely necessary and for which no special appropriations have been made; for example, drafts on maintenance for construction work were made during the past four years as follows:

YEAR.	Total Appropriation Expended.	Spent for Construction and Miscellaneous.	Net Appropria- tion Available for Maintenance.
1906.....	\$340,915 48	\$48,794 95	\$292,120 53
1907.....	336,144 87	23,978 82	312,166 05
1908.....	309,008 32	20,038 60	288,969 72
1909.....	365,172 07	56,370 45	308,801 62



By courtesy of The Brickbuilder.

CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND — LOCKER BUILDING.

These deductions bring the maintenance appropriations down to an amount entirely inadequate to the needs of the department. This is best illustrated by a comparison of the cost for maintenance, per acre, of eight important park departments in the United States, as seen in the table on page 36.

The following table shows the cost of the maintenance of roads for the past eight years, together with the average cost for the eight years. This table includes all labor, teaming, road repairs and oiling for the suppression of dust.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.							
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street.....	60,600	\$0.216	\$0.244	\$0.215	\$0.242	.....	\$0.218		
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line.....	203,700	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.063		
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line.....	264,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.210	.122	\$0.170	\$0.189
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road, and Marine Park.	372,800	.075	.079	.105	.092	.120	.120	.083	.089
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum.....	210,100	.079	.079	.074	.076	.068	.068	.029	.033
Average.....	847,200	\$0.091	\$0.096	\$0.105	\$0.101	\$0.135	\$0.107	\$0.097	\$0.107

Average cost of maintenance per annum for eight years of all park roads except at Chestnut Hill Park, \$0.105 per square yard.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.
COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1902 TO 1909, INCLUSIVE.

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA. Acres.	COST PER ACRE.							
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
1. { Commonwealth avenue	*30.0	\$698	\$713	\$628	\$691				
1. { Commonwealth avenue, with extension to Newton line	112.7					\$553	\$376	\$463	\$507
2. Fens	115.0	124	126	145	120	169	170	143	121
3. Riverway	40.0	288	362	321	384	427	450	322	536
4. Olmsted Park	180.0	128	131	117	129	150	166	137	143
5. Arborway	36.0	196	190	217	269	300	363	359	224
6. Arnold Arboretum	†223.0	27	22	26	25	33	81	18	15
7. West Roxbury Parkway	†150.0	8	3	3	7	7	21	12	20
8. Franklin Park	527.0	110	111	97	103	106	139	114	136
9. Columbia road	31.2	140	131	227	233	295	276	173	217
10. Strandway	71.3	4	14	42	60	125	177	151	136
11. { Marine Park	52.5	125	118	111	175	174	231	227	223
11. { Castle Island	25.7								
12. Wood Island Park	55.6	118	131	121	143	159	184	179	207
13. Charlesbank	10.0	1,096	1,100	1,003	933	959	1,161	1,479	1,483
14. Trinity Triangle	0.12	18		184		11	77	37	77
15. Charlestown Heights	6.1	452	369	307	417	489	579	605	619
16. Charlestown Playground	14.0	109	111	113	107	127	110	109	159
17. Dorchester Park	26.0	22	18	44	51	69	67	79	58
18. Franklin Field	77.0	118	78	72	91	92	112	95	87
19. Copp's Hill Terraces	0.6	586	817	823	647	776	1,498	1,250	990
20. Chestnut Hill Park	55.4	67	92	79	106	113	119	108	112
21. North Brighton Playground	14.0	142	76	75	93	99	175	198	219
22. Neponset Playground	18.0	86	43	76	80	75	77	87	67
23. Billings Field	11.0	160	93	102	88	92	112	77	139
24. First Street Playground	4.6	229	241	631	448	519	677	708	810
25. Prince Street Playground	0.4	590	739	2,042	2,257	2,607	2,511	2,930	400
26. Mystic Playground	2.3	750	328	286	352	497	422	630	294
27. Fellows Street Playground	0.85	1,732	806	535	814	1,122	1,184	1,251	259

* At the end of 1905, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line under the care of the Park Department, making the total improved area of parks, playgrounds and roads now maintained 1,921 acres.

† Of this area 16.8 acres of roads and walks are maintained by the city. ‡ Unimproved.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.—*Concluded.*

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA. Acres.	COST PER ACRE.							
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
28. Christopher Gibson Play-ground.....	5.8	\$374	\$296	\$258	\$301	\$279	\$261	\$279	\$280
29. Columbus Avenue Play-ground.....	5.0	629	393	323	453	459	333	304	306
30. Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	20	.....	24	332	439	422	332	341
31. Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	157	108	194	160	323	269	292	374
32. Roslindale Playground.....	3.7	413	160	203	235	216	269	198	275
33. Forest Hills Playground.....	9.6	14	32	130	86	59	29	79	26
34. Rogers Park.....	6.9	164	131	48	167	220	246	132	223
35. Cottage Street Playground...	3.8	86	37	122	181	193	337	313	534
36. Randolph Street Playground,	2.8	.....	.....	455	725	609	887	1,193	707
37. Marcella Street Playground...	5.1	.....	64	272	315	608	480	593	652
38. Commonwealth Playground...	8.1	.....	.....	.....	5	71	59	119	145
39. Oak Square.....	0.22	176	368	58	118	93	.....	.....	245
40. Berners square.....	1.2	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	7
Average.....	1921.69	\$115	\$110	\$108	\$120	\$152	\$162	\$150	\$160

While Boston possesses a compact and convenient park system, good soil and many natural advantages, the quality of its maintenance is only mediocre. This is discernible to the trained eye in the condition of the drives, which are worn down in many places to their foundations; in the lack of thorough cultivation in the plantations of young trees, and in the ragged edges of the paths and drives, as well as in many other ways.

The use of oil for the suppression of dust grows in favor. The cost of oiling during the past year was \$0.018 per square yard. It must be remembered, in comparison with the watering method, that oil controls the dust both day and night. The use of sand, as a cushion for the surface of the roads, as an absorbent for the oil, is still retained as an important factor for success, as are also the patch-wagons, equipped

with oil, water, crushed stone, screenings and paving rammers, for patching holes in the surface of the roadways.

PLAYGROUNDS.

The department playgrounds now number twenty-five, four new playgrounds being acquired by purchase during the past year. These new playgrounds are located in Wards 1, 13 and 17. A list of the playgrounds, showing their areas, cost, etc., will be found elsewhere in this report.

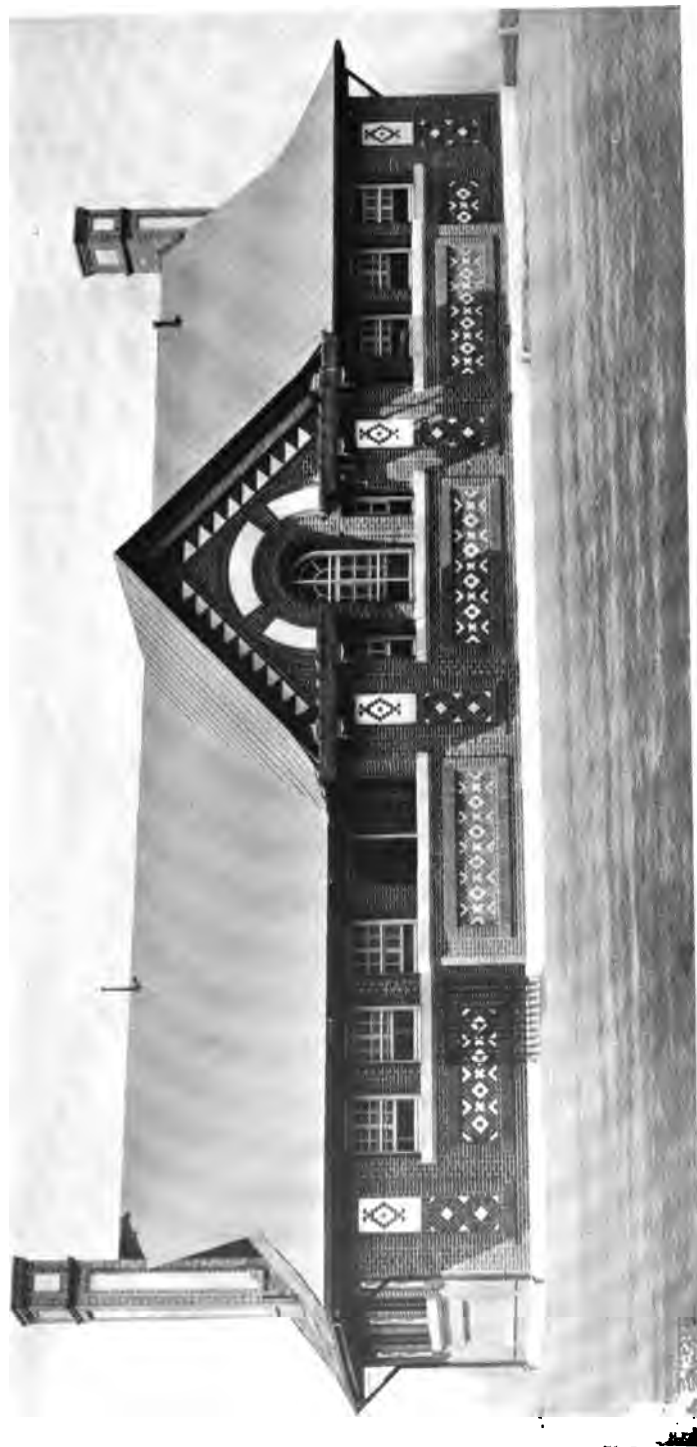
Under an act of the Legislature and by an arrangement with your department, the School Committee during last summer operated the children's corners in several of the playgrounds, paying the cost of maintenance. The School Committee, in addition, occupied such playgrounds as suited its purpose between the hours of 4.15 and 5.30 each afternoon during the summer. Although any plan which entails divided authority is doubtful of success, yet this one proved an exception to the rule, due, I think, principally to the tact and judgment of Dr. T. F. Harrington, director of school hygiene.

Of the construction work performed in the playgrounds during the past year the following were the most important:

A locker building in Franklin Field, embodying shelter, sanitary accommodations, spray baths, check and locker boxes. The erection of this building makes possible the removal of the old wooden sanitary buildings.

At Rogers Park the Sewer Department placed the brook in a conduit below the surface of the ground. This will enable us to enlarge the playground area.

At North Brighton Playground the digging of the Cambridge Subway enabled the department to obtain filling at a cheap rate to extend the area of graded ground and increase the facilities for play; 7,000 loads have now been delivered. Loam beds for the planting of trees all around the border of the playground have been prepared, and European elms will be planted in the spring.



By courtesy of THE BRICKBUILDER.

COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAYGROUND — LOCKER BUILDING.

At Billings Field a handsome design for a sanitary building has been selected. Owing, however, to a little deficiency in the appropriation, work has to be temporarily deferred.

At Roslindale Playground a contract has been let for a sanitary building and work is to be commenced at once. The old brook, which was temporarily provided for by the department, has been placed by the Sewer Department in a conduit beneath the ground.

At Columbus Avenue Playground a contract has been let and work commenced on a sanitary and locker building. A portion of what is intended to be a larger building is under contract for erection at Charlestown Playground. This will contain sanitary conveniences; the completed building will contain lockers and spray baths as well. A new sanitary building is nearly completed at Ashmont Playground. The designs of the various buildings contracted for during the past year are by William D. Austin. These buildings will be both attractive and convenient.

William Eustis Playground: At this newly acquired playground the grading, including a shallow basin for a skating area, has been completed and loam borders have been prepared for the planting of trees around the grounds. In the spring a concrete post fence, with panels of electrically welded wire, will be erected, the posts for which are now ready in the shops of the department. This fence will be 10 feet high, and will be set 10 feet in from the lot lines. On the lot lines a low pipe rail and concrete post fence will be set. These fences will serve to stop many driven balls from leaving the grounds, and at the same time will protect the trees and shrubbery planted on the borders.

At West Third Street and West Fifth Street Playgrounds in South Boston plans have been made for developing these new playgrounds. Work will be commenced early in the spring on grading and preparing loam beds for planting trees, for which purposes we have money available.

Appropriations are needed for construction work in the following playgrounds:

Franklin Field.— To complete the grading around the new locker building and to construct the piazza rail, the terrace balustrade and the cement floor in the basement; to extend the area of the graded ground in the field for increased playing facilities now needed.

Savin Hill Playground.— To provide for a little additional filling and grading, sand for the beach and enlarged accommodation for boy bathers.

Neponset Playground.— To increase the playing area, now cramped, by additional filling.

Mystic Playground.— To raise the dock wall and to erect thereon a substantial iron fence for the protection of the children.

Rogers Park.— To erect a sanitary building and to do some grading in the playground. Loam is also needed for the planting of trees around the boundary of the playground.

North Brighton Playground.— To do additional grading for the enlargement of the playing area. Fences are also needed.

Billings Field.— To secure filling in order to raise the center of the playground; also loam to plant trees around its borders.

Roslindale Playground.— To build a retaining wall. Some filling and grading; also fences are needed.

Columbus Avenue Playground.— To erect fences.

Prince Street Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations, drainage and pavement.

Fellows Street Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations.

Cottage Street Playground.— To erect fences.

Forest Hills and Mt. Hope Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations and grading.



By courtesy of **THE BRICKBUILDER.**

ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND — LOCKER BUILDING AND SHELTER.



Strandway Playground.—To provide sanitary accommodations, grading and fences.

GYPSY AND BROWN-TAIL MOTHS.

We have succeeded in combating these pests so successfully that serious damage has been avoided. The cost, however, is a serious tax on our resources, being last year \$15,499.21; the amount of arsenate of lead used was thirty tons. The whole system was sprayed. Infestations are now only to be found on the borders where pupating larvæ crossed over from neighboring property.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF
THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT
CHARLESBANK.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN,—Our supervision of the women's and children's division of Charlesbank during the past year has presented no new features of interest save those incidental to a change of population which has necessitated changing emphases.

The frequenters at Charlesbank now are chiefly from the foreign-born southern classes of Europe. At Charlesbank they come into close contact with their Americanized country women, whose more formal behavior gradually modifies theirs. This transformation is interesting to watch and to hasten as far as friendliness on our part permits.

With the children our task is far easier. They quickly assimilate our language and our ways, and though almost each day will reveal some ludicrous instance there is never any direct disobedience, yet occasionally a child may have to be sent home from Charlesbank for one or more days. At the opening of the summer season a week always suffices to reduce the good-natured turbulence of the women and children to a pleasing order. Very patiently will the lines of children, from fifty to seventy-five in each, wait in turn for entrance to the gymnasium or to the shower baths. Last summer a baby and a baby carriage show with Charlesbank prizes of crochet and raffia work, made by the children and given for the best cared-for baby and the neatest carriage, stimulated the desire for cleanliness.

Our previous reports have alluded to the free use of the green as a family picnic ground. Within the last two years

croquet has been added as a favorite diversion and has brought to us an older class of girls, who come from their shop work for an hour or more of play in the late afternoon. Our daily average summer attendance is more than a thousand, with three hundred more on a Jewish holiday.

The shower baths, on a summer day from 100 to 130, "personally supervised" by a teacher, are in constant use throughout the season and are frequently sought in winter.

Besides the regular class work in elementary gymnastics, the free muscular development of the children is greatly helped by gymnastic plays of which they never tire. The sand pens, reading, story telling and kindergarten work fill up the days, dramatics holding the place of honor. That each little play acted may be seen by all, the commission kindly had two large movable platforms built, on which the children become actors or take part in folk dances, to which a hurdy-gurdy, provided by a friend, lends enchantment.

The winter work for the children every afternoon and all day on Saturdays consists of simple gymnastics, swinging, games, dramatics again, and many direct educative influences which we call play, the average attendance being about 150, with usually more on Saturdays. The evening classes, four times a week for the older girls, include gymnastics, folk dancing and basket ball.

Whenever music can be regularly provided for the dancing, the classes, which now average from fifteen to twenty an evening, will increase in number. We have a piano but no pianist. It is very desirable not merely to keep the present interest but to create a demand among young women for what Charlesbank evening classes can give but which without music fall below the attractions of other gymnasiums.

So large is the attendance all through the year and so difficult is a kindly watchfulness by the teachers over children of all ages and tongues that this summer (1910) a second assistant has been provided during the vacations of the public schools, the superintendent and her two assistants

taking turns in being present throughout the Sundays. The upper story of the lodge with its toilet rooms is open all the time.

Miss Ann I. Loftus, the superintendent, is unwearied in her patience, inventiveness and fidelity.

Respectfully submitted,

KATE GANNETT WELLS,
ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS.

Location and Area of Parks and Playgrounds.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Ward.
Commonwealth avenue	112.7	Arlington street to Newton line	11, 25
Fens	115.0	Beacon street to Brookline avenue	10, 11, 19
Riverway (in Brookline 16.5 acres).....	40.0	Brookline avenue and Brookline line to Huntington avenue.	19
Olmsted Park (in Brookline 18 acres)...	180.0	Huntington avenue and Brookline line to Prince street.	19, 22, 23
Arborway	36.0	Prince street to Franklin Park	23
Arnold Arboretum	223.0	South, Centre and Walter streets	23
West Roxbury Parkway	150.0	Centre street to Washington street, Bellevue Hill.	23
Franklin Park	527.0	Seaver street to Morton street and Blue Hill avenue to Forest Hills street.	23
Columbia road	31.2	Franklin Park to Marine Park	14, 15, 16, 20
Strandway	71.3	Columbia road, from railroad bridge to Marine Park.	14, 15, 16
Marine Park and Castle Island	78.2	Farragut road, City Point	14
Wood Island Park	55.6	Neptune road, from Bennington street	1
Charlesbank	10.0	Charles street, from Cambridge street to Lev- erett street	8
Charlestown Heights	6.1	Bunker Hill and Medford streets	4
Dorchester Park	26.0	Dorchester avenue and Richmond street	24
Franklin Field	77.0	Talbot and Blue Hill avenues	24
North End Beach and Copp's Hill Terraces	4.3	Commercial and Charter streets	6
Chestnut Hill Park (Reservoir and ad- jacent lands, 160.65 acres).	55.4	Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue, Brighton.	25
Savin Hill Park	8.26	Grampan way	24
Rogers Park	6.9	Lake and Foster streets	25
Ashmont Playground	2.2	Brent street, near Talbot avenue	24
Billings Field	11.0	La Grange and Bellevue streets, near Centre street.	23
Charlestown Playground	14.0	Main and Alford streets	4
Christopher Gibson Playground	5.8	Dorchester avenue, Geneva avenue and Park street.	24
Columbus Avenue Playground	5.0	Columbus avenue and Camden street	18
Commonwealth Playground	8.07	C, D and Cypher streets and Mt. Washing- ton avenue.	13
Cottage Street Playground	3.85	Cottage street, near Maverick street	2
Fellows Street Playground .....	.85	Fellows and Hunneman streets	17
First Street Playground	4.6	First and M streets	6
Forest Hills Playground	9.6	Washington and Florence streets	23
Marcella Street Playground	5.1	Ritchie, Highland and Marcella streets	22
Mystic Playground	2.3	Chelsea street and Mystic river	3
Neponset Playground	18.0	Neponset avenue	24
North Brighton Playground	14.0	Western avenue and North Harvard street	25
Orient Heights Playground	8.31	Saratoga and Boardman streets	1
Prince Street Playground .....	.4	Prince and North Bennet streets	6
Randolph Street Playground	2.8	Albany and Randolph streets	9
Rosindale Playground	3.7	South, Robert and South Walter streets	23
Savin Hill Playground	6.9	Springdale and Denny streets	24
West Fifth Street Playground .....	.41	West Fifth street, between D and E streets	13
West Third Street Playground .....	.28	West Third street, corner B street	13
William Eustis Playground	4.88	Norfolk avenue and Proctor street	17
Berners Square	1.2	Plymouth and Bellevue streets, near Long- wood avenue.	19
Oak Square	22	Washington and Faneuil streets	25

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1909-1910.

	Balances January 31, 1909.	Appropriations and Transfers 1909-10.	Total Credits.	Expenditures 1909-10.	Balances January 31, 1910
Ashmont Playground, sanitary		\$4,000 00	\$4,000 00	\$1,592 25	\$2,407 75
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths	\$5,000 00		5,000 00		5,000 00
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus	559 41		559 41	288 18	261 23
Charlestown Playground, sanitary	5,000 00		5,000 00		5,000 00
Castle Island, sanitary and shelter	45 49				143 32
Cottage Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, lockers, etc.	692 03	2,500 00	2,545 49	2,402 17	
Commonwealth Playground, sanitary, open-air gymnasium and grading			692 03	692 03	
Columbus Avenue Playground, sanitary and lockers	2,192 12		2,192 12		2,192 12
Franklin Field, speedway	495 96	12,000 00	12,000 00		12,000 00
Franklin Field, locker building		55 03	550 99	550 99	
First Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.	1,804 09	8,451 25	8,451 25	8,451 25	
Marine Park, pier head	1,867 28		1,804 09	929 10	874 99
Mystic Playground, sanitary and shelter		5,000 00	1,867 28		1,867 28
Marcella Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus, etc.	4,000 78		5,000 00	75 00	4,925 00
North Brighton Playground, extension of		5,000 00	4,000 78		4,000 78
Park Department, maintenance			5,000 00	881 83	4,118 17
Playground, Ward 7		* 365,172 07	365,172 07	365,172 07	
Playground, Ward 16		25,000 00	25,000 00		25,000 00
Playgrounds, Wards 7 and 9	16,892 62	25,000 00	16,892 62	61 16	16,831 46
Billings Field Playground, sanitary and shelter		5,000 00	5,000 00		5,000 00
Orient Heights Playground	30,000 00		30,000 00	10,000 00	20,000 00
Playground, Parker Hill District	60,000 00		60,000 00		60,000 00
Playgrounds, Ward 13	25,000 00		25,000 00	20,402 60	4,597 40
Playground, Ward 17	80,000 00		80,000 00	72,932 28	7,067 72
Roslindale Playground, sanitary		7,500 00	7,500 00	200 00	7,300 00
Recreation Grounds, M, N, East Eighth and East Ninth streets and Columbia road					
Savin Hill Park	35,000 00	5,000 00	5,000 00		5,000 00
Wood Island Park, flagpole		500 00	35,000 00	34,172 28	827 72
Wood Island Park, bandstand		500 00	500 00		500 00
		500 00	500 00		500 00
	\$268,349 78	\$470,678 35	\$739,028 13	\$618,813 19	\$220,214 94

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$4,984.38.

INCOME.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year.	\$17 55
Received for labor	5,138 46
Received from sale of buildings, wool, sheep, grass, wood, etc.	984 22
Rents	2,763 50
Betterments	250 00
Sale of land	21 25
	<u>\$9,174 98</u>

PAYMENTS.

Appropriation Park Department	\$4,934 38
Income carried to general city income	3,619 41
Sinking Fund.	271 25
Balance on hand January 31, 1910	349 94
	<u>\$9,174 98</u>

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1910.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Assess- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Jan. 31, 1910.
Public Park, Back Bay...	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor...	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River..	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury,	154,107 00	113,808 00	40,299 00	31,913 00	8,386 00
" Dorchester....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,696 98</u>	<u>\$397,056 02</u>	<u>\$383,694 30</u>	<u>\$13,361 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1910 \$16,331,910 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund January 31, 1910 7,713,870 54

Net Debt January 31, 1910 \$8,618,040 44

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction

	Drainage.	Grading.	Water Supply.	Building.
Ashmont Playground				\$1,592 25
Castle Island.....	\$546 08			1,856 09
Charlestown Playground.....				298 18
Cottage Street Playground.....				692 03
Franklin Field locker building.....		\$3,422 53		5,028 72
Franklin Field speedway.....	189 49		\$242 00	
First Street Playground		56 82	129 87	190 47
Mystic Playground				75 00
North Brighton Playground.....		234 46		
Orient Heights Playground				
Savin Hill Park				
Wards 7 and 9 Playgrounds.....				16 80
Ward 13 Playgrounds.....				
Ward 17 Playground.....	352 75	4,367 35		
Roslindale Playground				200 00
	\$1,088 32	\$8,081 16	\$371 87	\$9,949 54

from February 1, 1909, to January 31, 1910.

Gymnasium Apparatus and Fence.	Planta- tion.	Wall.	Loam.	Clearing Ground.	Grand- stand.	Lands.	Total.
.....	\$1,592 25
.....	2,402 17
.....	298 17
.....	692 03
.....	8,451 25
.....	\$119 50	.....	550 99
\$551 94	929 20
.....	75 00
.....	\$647 37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	881 83
.....	\$10,000 00	10,000 00
.....	\$2,264 73	.....	31,907 55	34,172 28
.....	\$44 36	.....	.....	.....	61 16
.....	20,402 60	20,402 60
607 28	\$882 16	425 37	.....	.....	66,297 37	72,932 28
.....	200 00
\$1,159 22	\$647 37	\$882 16	\$469 73	\$2,264 73	\$119 50	\$128,607 52	\$153,641 12

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance

PARKS.	ROADS.		Walks.	Grounds.	Moth. Suppression.	Buildings.
	Resurfacing.	Cleaning, Patching and Oiling.				
Commonwealth Avenue.....	\$17,986 07	\$22,114 28	\$2,611 56	\$2,086 40	\$826 87	.....
The Fens.....		5,417 75	982 71	5,807 28	326 28	\$890 00
Riverway.....	4,888 40	4,650 08	378 72	4,643 00	359 86	4,222 06
Olmsted Park.....		5,731 00	773 76	12,517 88	2,466 59	3,347 46
Arborway.....		2,630 76	76 67	4,063 67	317 17	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....		2,232 59	400 25	.....	.....	591 89
West Roxbury Parkway.....		.....	.....	1,255 48	1,837 44	82 65
Franklin Park.....		4,661 37	2,189 41	31,008 04	12,285 50	14,443 00
Columbia Road.....		5,733 59	239 28	444 21	126 72	.....
Strandway.....		2,517 08	170 26	5,174 70	75 91	1,408 87
Marine Park.....		965 07	296 72	6,521 63	94 34	1,550 41
Wood Island Park.....		51 43	267 71	4,632 37	.....	941 28
Charlesbank.....		.....	121 83	5,616 88	30 72	.....
Trinity Triangle.....		.....	9 25	.....	.....	.....
Charlestown Heights.....		.....	228 94	2,411 38	94 74	1,088 97
Charlestown Playground.....		.....	162 28	1,745 68	.....	.....
Dorchester Park.....		.....	6 53	396 00	788 87	121 30
Franklin Field.....		243 43	7 91	2,052 32	237 17	1,847 54
Copp's Hill Terrace.....		.....	.....	549 87	.....	.....
Chestnut Hill Park.....		1,866 47	67 10	2,468 19	1,235 69	71 76
North Brighton Playground.....		.....	20 11	732 01	.....	1,816 32
Neponset Playground.....		.....	5 24	693 01	20 33	282 51
Billings Field.....		.....	.....	1,059 52	28 11	83 20
First Street Playground.....		.....	19 50	1,215 16	.....	1,833 63
Prince Street Playground.....		.....	.....	110 83	.....	.....
Myrtle Playground.....		.....	24 50	599 41	.....	.....
Fellows Street Playground.....		.....	16 73	129 41	.....	.....
Christopher Gibson Playground.....		.....	5 30	462 97	42 85	863 30
Columbus Avenue Playground.....		.....	77 20	1,237 94	.....	1 15
Ashmont Playground.....		.....	8 98	377 79	23 16	.....
Bavin Hill Playground.....		.....	3 00	527 76	.....	401 64
Roslindale Playground.....		.....	5 62	597 75	12 74	.....
Forest Hills Playground.....		.....	2 25	153 54	51 65	.....
Rogers Park.....		.....	48 17	1,352 80	31 12	.....
Berners Square.....		.....	.....	.....	9 44	.....
Oak Square.....		.....	2 25	.....	52 15	.....
Cottage Street Playground.....		.....	47 82	919 62	.....	931 47
Randolph Street Playground.....		.....	8 59	693 56	.....	881 29
Marcella Street Playground.....		.....	74 35	1,810 90	5 82	1,399 43
William Rustis Playground.....		.....	11 88	43 09	.....	.....
Commonwealth Park.....		.....	31 05	609 05	.....	143 85
Miscellaneous.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	\$22,754 47	\$69,414 00	\$9,403 54	\$107,787 00	\$21,114 24	\$39,224 78

February 1, 1909, to January 31, 1910.

Bridges and Piers.	CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS.			Sheep and Water Fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gym- nasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Total.
	Grading, Loam and Roads.	Drainage and Water Supply.	Buildings, Walls and Fences.					
\$1,646 50	\$28,709 56							\$85,573 34
41 60	3,597 42			\$344 32	\$48 92			17,518 28
2,309 84				15 00				21,466 97
				389 68	566 23			25,794 60
								8,087 67
								3,324 83
								3,225 57
	1,407 62	\$635 79	\$6,251 96	2,759 86	4,440 87			80,083 92
215 85		132 85						6,892 50
	607 34				382 21			10,336 07
2,275 51		19 69	224 77		18 89			11,967 08
46 78					791 37	\$4,823 72		11,555 66
					88 83	4,535 33	\$4,464 45	14,858 04
								9 25
					13 33			3,777 36
					231 43	96 50		2,228 04
					184 50			1,509 20
	4,381 28	386 96	3,745 95	1,046 48	1,326 04			15,225 58
								549 87
	245 84				9 13			6,463 18
	50 85		35 75		452 14			3,157 18
					205 46		4 00	1,210 55
	31 33				366 36			1,568 52
			26 00		637 36	27 69		3,759 34
							50 00	160 83
					52 68			676 59
					4 08		70 28	220 50
					240 18		14 00	1,628 60
					213 48			1,529 77
					341 36			750 29
					1,650 04			2,582 44
					401 88			1,017 99
					44 56			252 00
		591 92			141 52			2,165 53
								9 44
								54 40
			75 55		132 87			2,107 33
					254 79		142 70	1,980 93
					67 01			3,327 51
			257 78		71 78			384 53
					392 65			1,176 60
								5,004 24
\$6,536 08	\$39,031 24	\$1,717 21	\$10,617 76	\$4,555 34	\$13,771 50	\$9,485 24	\$4,745 43	\$365,172 07

Park Statistics to January 31, 1910.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM:									
Commonwealth avenue....	1894-1905	.....	\$121,607 93	\$121,607 93	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles		22 acres
Fens.....	1877-1879	\$596,254 49	2,150,875 44	2,747,129 93	115 "	4 "	6.7 "	1.1 miles	8 "
* Riverway.....	1890	457,457 53	674,109 35	1,131,566 88	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.2 "	77 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890 and 1892	1,081,947 60	734,373 59	1,816,321 19	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.6 "	
Arboretum.....	1892	245,584 25	381,793 81	627,378 06	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "	
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882 and 1895	79,354 15	388,372 84	467,726 99	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....	0.6 "
West Roxbury Parkway...	1894	135,265 29	22,123 21	157,388 50	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "	
Franklin Park.....	1883 and 1884	1,551,896 63	2,428,919 40	3,980,816 03	527 "	7.3 "	14.9 "	1 mile	7.4 "
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899	447,528 63	540,511 93	988,040 56					
Dorchesterway.....	1892	63,735 54	65,137 12	128,922 66	{ 102.5 " land 104 " flats }	4.2 "	4.5 "		
Strandway.....	{ 1890, 1892, 1897 and 1901 }	772,515 12	390,558 96	1,163,074 08					
Marine Park.....	1883	232,972 57	1,059,306 17	1,292,278 74	{ 52.5 " land 4.9 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.3 "	.....	3.4 "
† Castle Island.....	1890	.....	38,042 23	38,042 23	{ 25.7 " land 78.3 " flats }				
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1882 and 1891	132,800 00	259,273 53	392,073 53	{ 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats }	0.3 "	2.1 "		
CHARLESBANK.....	1883	373,916 99	313,448 13	687,365 12	10 "	.....	1.5 "		
Carried forward.....	.....	\$6,171,228 79	\$9,568,503 64	\$15,739,732 43	2,062.60 acres	42.10 miles	64.65 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1910.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$6,171,228 79	\$9,568,503 64	\$15,739,732 43	2,062.60 acres	42.10 miles	64.65 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
**TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	12 acres	.....	.....	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 56	153,645 58	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats }	.....	0.4 mile	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND,	1891	172,923 31	25,680 78	198,554 09	{ 14 " land 4 " flats }	.....	0.6 "	.....	.....
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	26 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	158,204 18	315,545 40	77 "	0.35 mile	0.35 "	.....	.....
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 8 " flats }	.....	.....	.....	.....
COPP'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,858 19	32,001 46	122,859 65	0.6 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898, 1899 } { and 1902 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	.....	.....	.....
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	28,484 60	45,591 72	14 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 39	16,189 35	40,993 74	18 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896	47,068 98	16,758 00	63,826 98	11 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
|| FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND,	1897	.....	29,965 41	29,965 41	4.6 "	.....	0.4 "	.....	.....
§ FREEPORT STREET TH- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
PRINCE STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	{ 1897, 1899 } { and 1901 }	180,474 70	434 07	180,908 77	0.4 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
MYTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,125 00	3,879 41	54,004 41	2.3 acres	.....	.....	.....	.....
! FELLOWS STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	14,503 72	7,032 64	21,536 36	0.85 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Carried forward</i>		\$7,618,742 31	\$10,174,955 15	\$17,793,697 46	2,308.11 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1910.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$7,618,742 31	\$10,174,955 15	\$17,793,697 46	2,308.11 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{1899, 1900} {1901, 1902}	327,503 84	18,581 26	346,085 10	5 "				
ASEMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	5,592 25	49,582 34	2.2 "				
SAVIN HILL PLAYGROUND....	1899	27,147 30	11,129 36	38,276 66	{ 6.9 " land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND...	1899	24,825 11	6,192 71	31,017 82	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND..	1902	25,166 75	.....	25,166 75	9.6 "				
COTTAGE STREET PLAY- GROUND, WARD 2.....	1902	47,002 32	7,997 68	55,000 00	3.85 "				
RANDOLPH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	27,302 32	283,742 95	1.8 "				
MARCELLA STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903	.....	31,154 50	31,154 50	5.1 "				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	3,853 11	33,853 11	6.9 "				
BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 "				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	682 34	0.22 acre				
COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905	.....	7,807 88	7,807 88	8.07 acres				
SAVIN HILL PARK.....	1909	31,907 55	2,264 73	34,172 28	8.26 "				
ORIENT HEIGHTS PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,000 00	.....	10,000 00	8.31 "				
<i>Carried forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,480,435 48	\$10,307,550 74	\$18,788,286 22	2,397.72 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1910.—Concluded.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.		Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Total.				
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$8,480,435 48	\$10,307,850 74	\$18,788,286 22	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
WEST THIRD STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	.....	10,201 30	.28 acres			
WEST FIFTH STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	.....	10,201 30	.41 "			
WILLIAM EUSTIS PLAYGROUND.....	1909	66,287 37	6,634 91	72,932 28	4.88 "			
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....		245 29	.....	245 29				
General account.....		\$8,567,380 74	\$10,314,485 65	\$18,881,866 39				
Park Nursery.....		.....	73,987 50	73,987 50				
Betterment expenses.....		.....	29,947 07	29,947 07				
		.....	13,356 10	13,356 10				
		\$8,637,380 74	\$10,431,776 32	\$18,999,157 06	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

* An additional area of 16½ acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to the city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

1 Transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

2 Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

3 Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

4 Transferred from School Department by order of the City Council. Approved March 24, 1902.

5 Custody given to city by Statutes 1891, chapter 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.

Table of the Comparative Cost per Acre of the Maintenance of Eight Important Park Systems in the United States.

NAME.	ACRES.			Total Maintenance Cost.	Average Cost per Acre.	Wage per day and Hours per Day.	Police.	Light and Water.	Year.	Remarks.
	Total.	Improved.	Partly Improved.							
Buffalo.....	1,052	1,052	.....	\$140,940 65	\$134 00	\$1 75 8 hours.	.....	Not In- cluded.	Ending June 30, 1908.	Zoological collection omitted, \$9,518.82.
Cincinnati.....	528	528	.....	77,914 00	147 00	.....	Included.	Included	1908.	
New York, Brooklyn and Queens.	2,438	1,688	750	935,344 70	383 00	\$2 00 8 hours.	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	1909.	Following omitted: City trees, Zoological Department, music, Museum of Arts and Sciences, children's museums. Total, \$187,410.
New York, Manhattan and Richmond.	1,639	1,385	274	1,026,061 29	618 00	\$2 50 8 hours.	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	1909.	Following omitted: City trees, Zoological Department, music, aquarium, Metropolitan Mu- seum of Art, Museum Natural History. Total, \$496,793.75.
Chicago, Lincoln Park.....	453	453	.....	238,997 13	527 00	\$2 00 8 hours.	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	Ending Decem- ber 31, 1907.	Music omitted, \$3,340.50.
Chicago, South Park.....	2,430	1,725	705	717,487 52	295 00	.....	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	Ending Decem- ber 31, 1907.	Music omitted, \$15,674.82.
Chicago, West, Parks.....	1,029	1,029	.....	391,254 65	380 00	\$1 75 8 hours.	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	Ending Decem- ber 31, 1907.	Music omitted, \$5,380.
Boston.....	1,921	1,771	150	312,166 05	162 00	\$2 25 8 hours.	Not In- cluded.	Not In- cluded.	Ending Jan- uary 31, 1908.	

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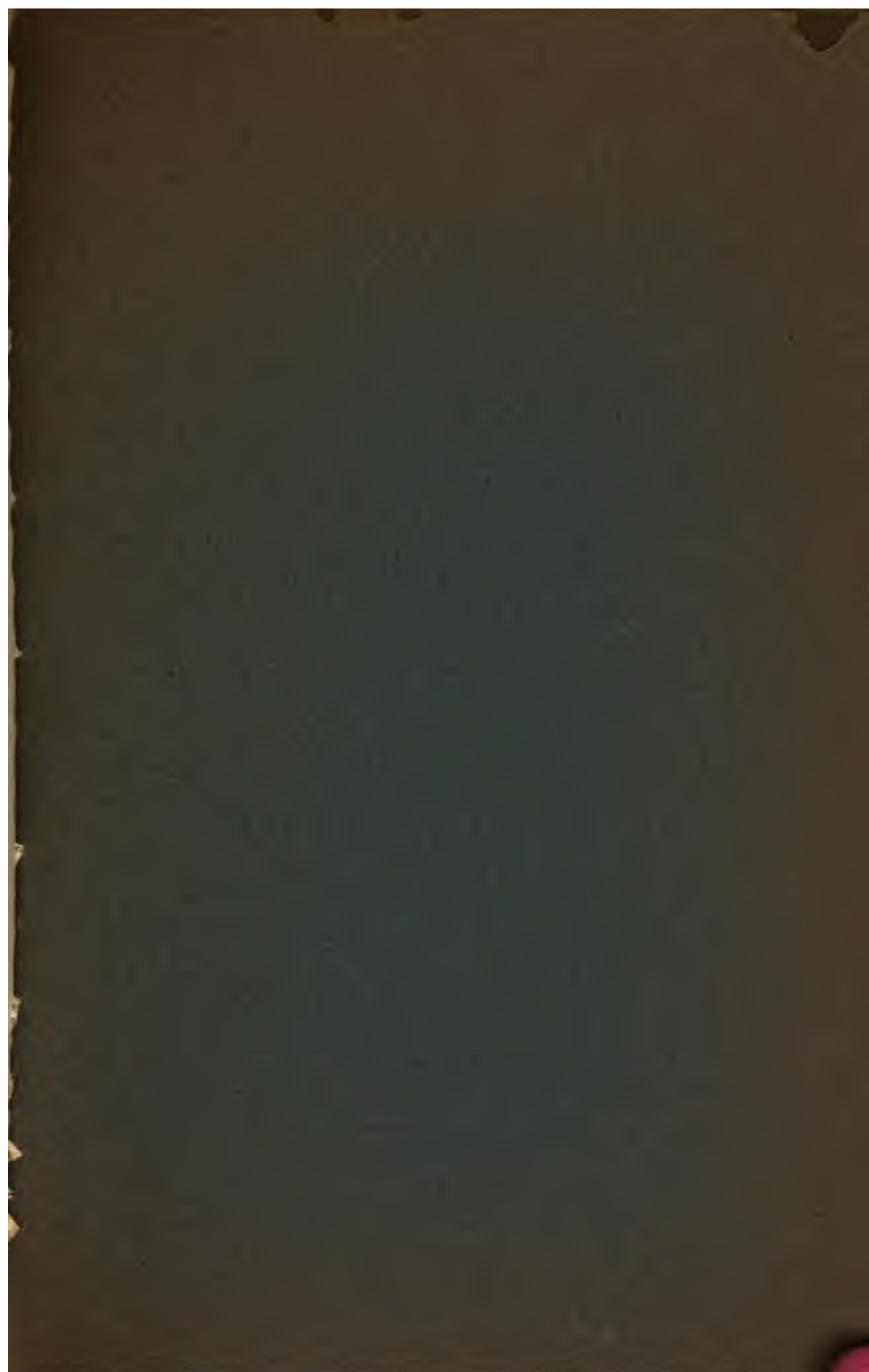
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City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

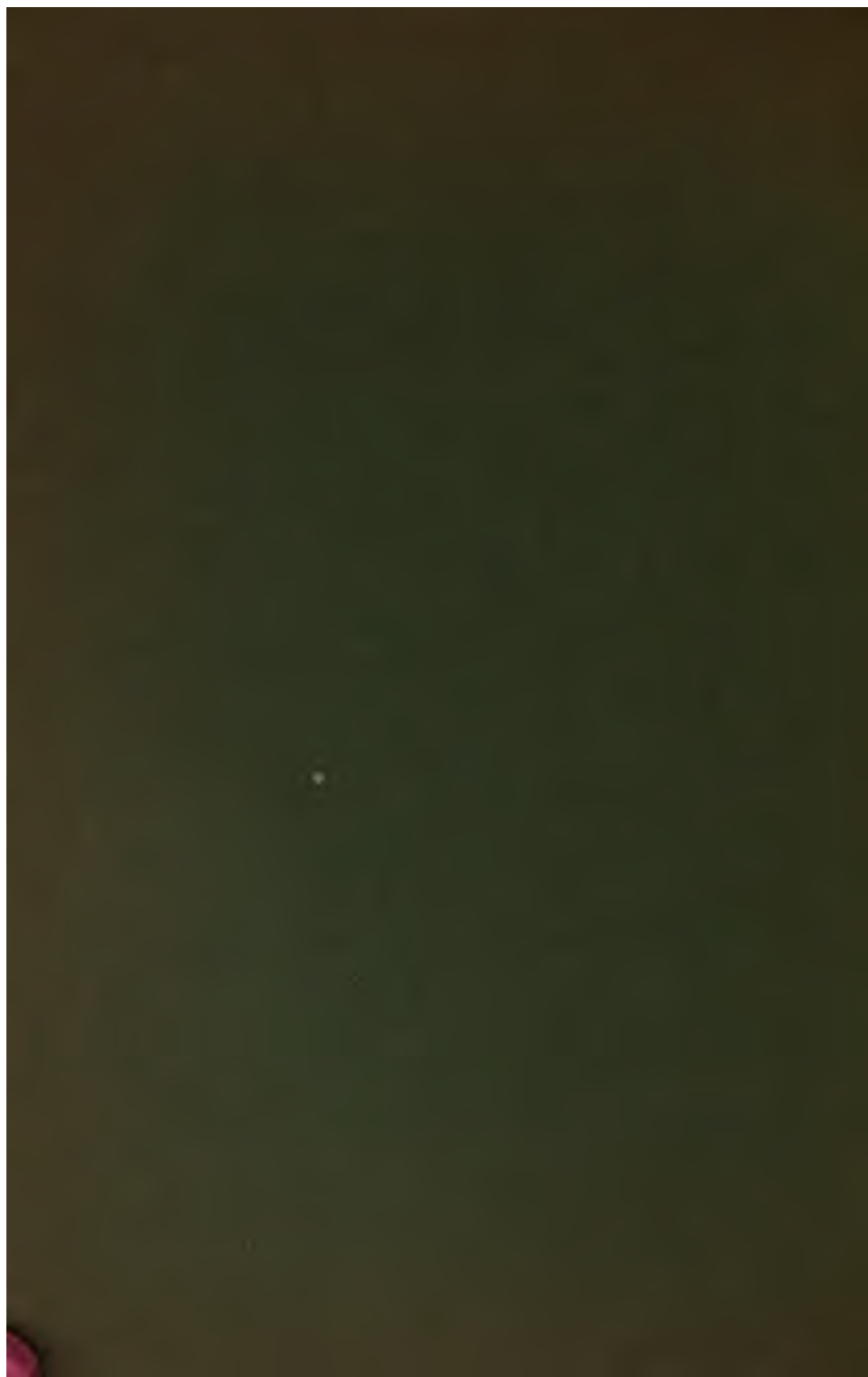
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1911



PRINTED FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON

1911





City of Boston

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1911



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1911

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,— Much of the work that we described in our last report as then to be desired has now either been done or is well advanced.

By arrangements made with the Transit Commission the marsh land in the northern portion of the Fens is being graded with earth from the Beacon Hill tunnel to a level which will make it upland and suited to park uses. This has been done without expense, but it will be necessary when it is completed to ask for an appropriation to surface this area with some loam.

The herbaceous garden in Franklin Park has been well started. The flowers made a brilliant display last summer and will be far more attractive in the coming year. This garden will form a part of the Zoological Gardens and aid in preserving parklike features as the zoological collection extends.

The commission this year again would urge that authority be obtained for the opening of the parks and playgrounds to "innocent recreation" on Sunday afternoon. We believe that the grounds so thoroughly used on Saturday afternoons should be put to use on Sunday afternoons and can see no reason why if innocent sport is permitted by the police on private or club grounds it should not be also allowed on the playgrounds open to those who have no such grounds of their own. We desire to see tennis, quoits, bowls, cricket and baseball

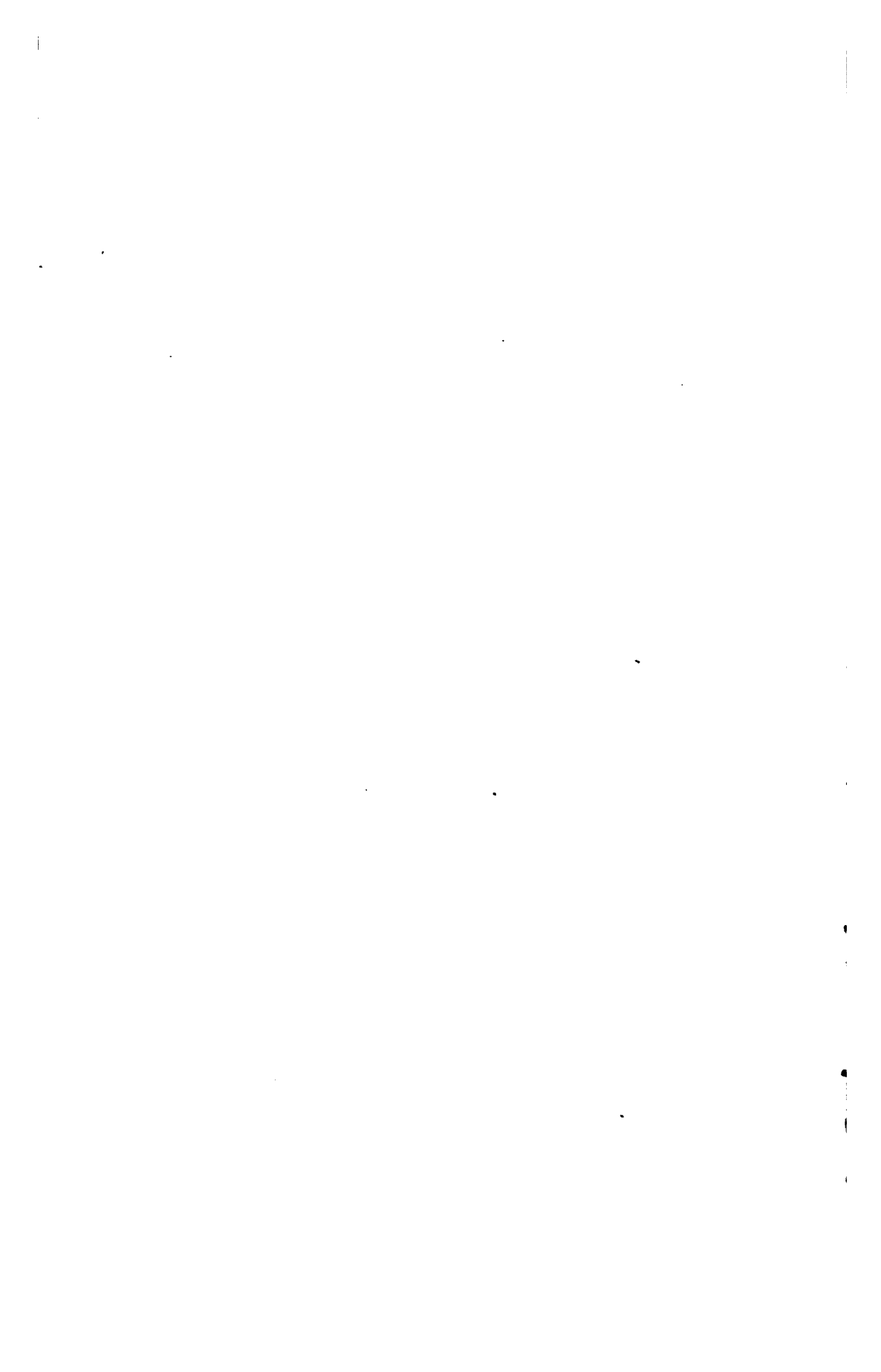
on the playgrounds on summer Sunday afternoons, just as skating and tobogganing are now permitted on Sundays in winter on these same grounds. The idea that the former should be forbidden on Sundays as being competitive games and that the latter should be permitted as "methods of locomotion" seems to us unreasonable.

Six locker buildings of picturesque design and suited to the playground surroundings have been completed on six of the playgrounds. The grading and fences have been completed on the William Eustis Playground and the Columbus Avenue Playground. The grading has been done at the North Brighton Playground with earth obtained from the Cambridge tunnel. The Prince Street Playground has been paved and an interesting scheme of shelters and planting has been arranged to be installed as soon as spring weather permits. Savin Hill Park has been planted with great care, and as the planting attains growth we feel sure that this park will be one of great beauty. Some of the proposed and authorized work at Charlesbank has been done and the rest is to be done as soon as the opening season permits. The extension of the speedway at Franklin Field has nearly been completed.

It has been a constant question with the Park Commission whether with the growth of foliage and with the changes that have at times become necessary the original plan of the parks as designed by Mr. Olmsted, senior, was being adhered to; or whether if not being adhered to the changes were beneficial or otherwise. Seeking light on this question the commission engaged the late Mr. Olmsted's sons to make a thorough peregrination of the park in company with our superintendent and landscape architect. Messrs. Olmsted have just given us their interesting report and we hand it to you herewith. Much as we value this careful report it is proper to say that



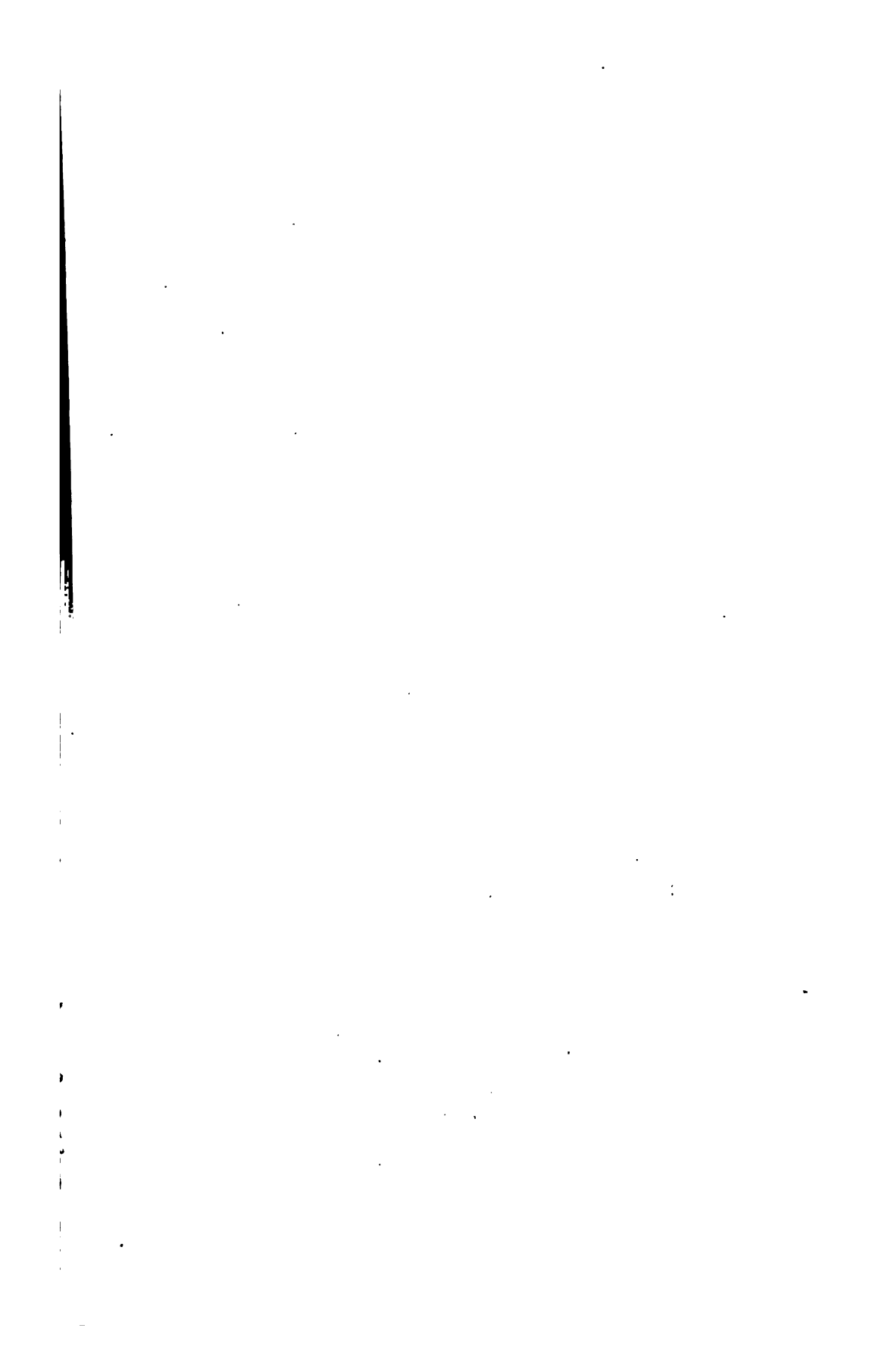
FRANKLIN PARK.—HERBACEOUS BORDER.



we do not agree with all their conclusions. For instance, were it possible to obtain the \$80,000 it would probably cost we should like to arrange Commonwealth avenue between Massachusetts avenue and the Fens on the same plan that exists beyond each end of this short section. The changes that have already been made west of the Fens on the avenue and that new conditions have caused lead us to feel that this would be a very desirable change. We hope, however, to profit greatly from this report, and from one that the Finance Commission have recently on their own account intrusted to Mr. Manning, landscape architect.

There are certain things that we desire to do in the near future if furnished with necessary funds for their carrying out, among which are the following: (1) In our last report we referred to the condition of the water in the Fens. The only change that can occur in this water is caused by whatever flow there may be from the Charles river through the openings under Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue and the railroad into the Fens and then back again through the same openings to the river. It is obvious that the change in the water is very slight and the water stands in the Fens without any other flow or change. We have had it examined. It is to-day in good condition and nobody complains of it. It is obvious, however, that a very slight change in conditions might make it disagreeable and unhealthy. Those in charge of the basin and the marginal sewer will not permit us to let water in from Charles river through the Fens into the marginal sewer whence it would be delivered below the dam into the bay. The reason this is not permitted is because there is not water enough in the Charles river to spare for this flow through the Fens. Our commission, therefore, desires and has asked in previous years for the funds necessary to establish an electric pumping plant which

would pump water from the upper end of the Fens into the Brookline avenue sewer whence it would go into the Charles River Basin and thus a flow would be obtained without any waste of water from the basin. We again urge the necessity of this upon your attention believing it to be a necessary safeguard against future possible trouble. (2) We cannot expect to see the playgrounds very largely used during school hours on week days. On Saturdays they are well used; if the Legislature opens them on Sundays the fact of their use upon two days of the week would tend to their greater use on the remaining days. We believe, however, that on every large playground there should be maintained a supervisor or play leader to control the playgrounds and children's corners and direct and supervise the play on these playgrounds and the neighboring small grounds that belong to the city. Of course this is an expense for which we have no funds, but we believe it desirable. (3) We also think that these supervisors and the children's corners and the entire administration of the playgrounds should be in our charge and not divided between us and the School Committee and others. Divided responsibility gives incomplete results. (4) We should also like money enough to give a very thorough surfacing of macadam and sand to the small playgrounds. The best surfacing that we can now give is complained of by those who frequent the playgrounds. (5) Locker buildings or sanitariums are needed on some of the large playgrounds, especially the Strandway, which now has no conveniences of this kind. (6) We have already suggested to you that an appropriation already made for a bath house in that region might be coupled with a new appropriation and a building containing bath house, sanitariums and lockers could then be suitably placed on the Strandway Playground. (7) A locker building with sanitariums and a shelter and boat pier is



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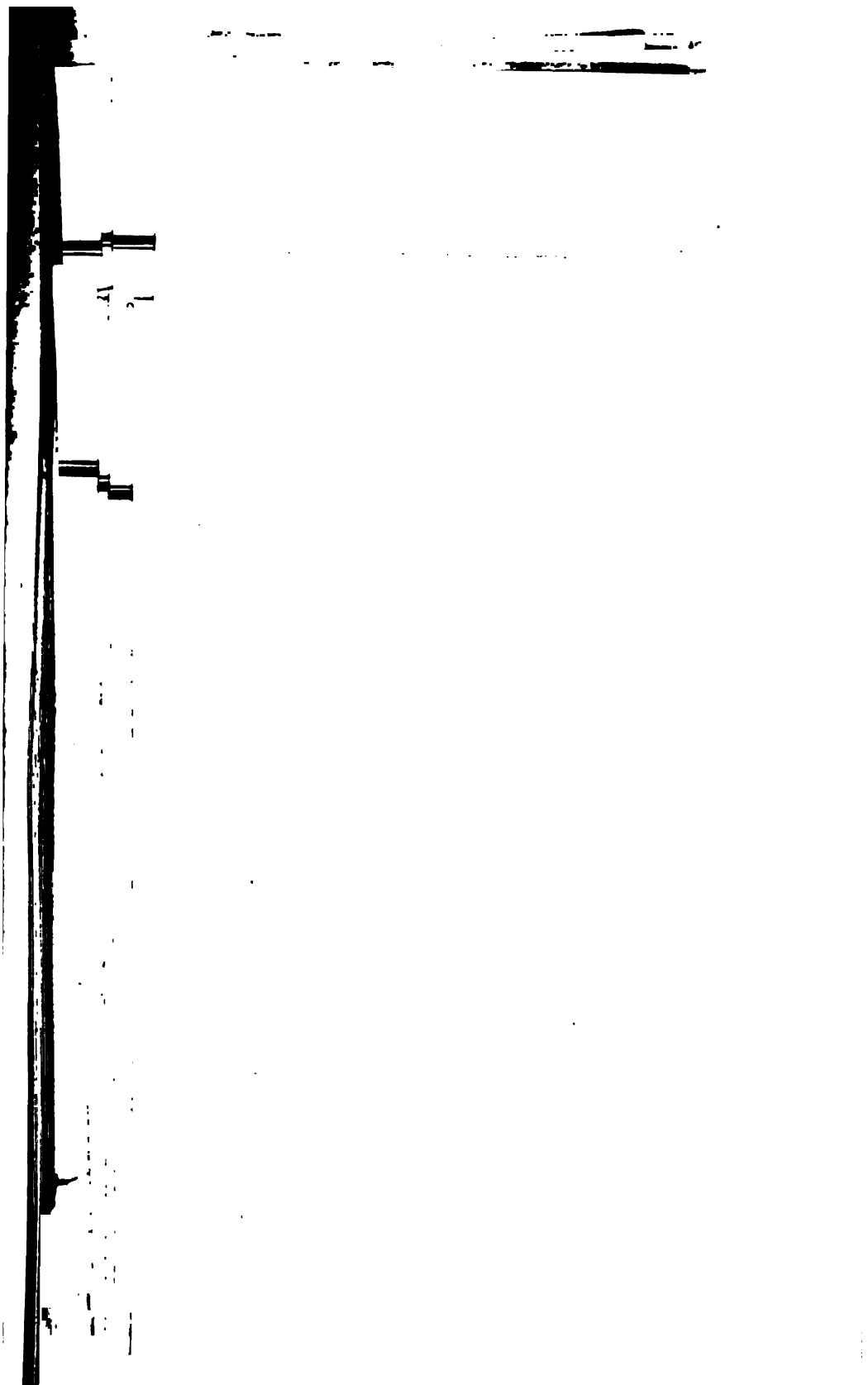
also needed at the southern end of Jamaica pond. The present building is unfit to be left standing amid these beautiful surroundings. (8) We also desire to fit with a small locker building and shelter, and to plant with trees, the vacant lot in our control north of Charlestown Heights Playground and adjoining the railroad and make it an attractive resort for mothers and small children. (9) We again draw your attention to the fact that Commonwealth avenue extension should be planted with trees. Estimates for this have been laid before you in previous years. (10) The North End Playground terraces can, we think, be made more available by changes in the walls but we should like to build at the summit of those terraces a very large two storied shelter, and thus give large areas for women to rest and sew and children to play where the air and the views are most attractive. The cost of this shelter would give the equivalent of another playground for this crowded district.

Every year it has been the practice, and in fact it is absolutely necessary, to spend out of the maintenance appropriation certain sums for work which cannot be left undone but which is really constructive. In making the annual appropriations it might be well to make a special appropriation for "improvements" so that these necessary expenditures should appear under their proper head and not figure as maintenance.

We have the funds in hand to buy three playgrounds. We have already reported to you regarding that in Ward 19, for which a sum of \$60,000 has been appropriated. We have had what might be thought an advantageous offer from a real estate point of view of one lot of land, but it seems to us too valuable land for the city to purchase for a playground. Other offers of land in that neighborhood have been made but the price and the conformation do not commend these sites to us as

desirable or economical. We are waiting hopefully for an opportunity to make a proper investment in Ward 19. Appropriations also are available of \$25,000 each for playgrounds in Ward 16 and Ward 7, and to the latter it is also possible to add the unexpended balance (about \$16,000) remaining from the Randolph Street Playground, and which is applicable to Wards 7 and 9. We are actively engaged in trying to make good purchases with these funds.

In our last report we suggested various methods of creating attractions in Franklin Park. Very soon thereafter the opportunity presented itself for establishing the Zoological Garden at Franklin Park and the Aquarium at South Boston to be paid for from the Parkman Fund, and we made a report to you and the City Council some months since regarding the designs for these. Since then we have carefully studied in greater detail the Aquarium building. Our advisers have visited New York, Washington and Detroit, and have consulted with the authorities there and we have engaged Doctor Bean of Albany to review our drawings and advise with us regarding them. We hope to start on building the Aquarium as soon as the season opens. We have also worked over in detail the general plan for the Zoological Garden in Franklin Park and the more detailed designs for the winter bird house; the summer out-door flying cage or aviary; the duck pond; the bear den and also dens for various other animals. Mr. Hornaday, the director of the Bronx Zoological Gardens, has at our request been a second time to Boston, reviewed all our work and advised with us professionally and to our great advantage. We offer the following program as what we should like to do as regards the Zoological Garden.



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We desire to open the Zoological Garden on June 1, 1912. In that event we should not accept any animals before April 1, 1912. The whole of 1911 and the entire spring of 1912 would be required for preparations. On June 1, 1912, we should like to have two good buildings ready, namely, the bird house and the building that would finally be the deer house, but which temporarily would contain any animals requiring indoor care. The accompanying plan will show where, after mature study, we now plan to place these different buildings and dens, etc., with which to start the Zoological Park. The estimate for all this preparation would be as follows:

Camels, camelopard and musk ox	\$8,000
Carnivorous group	24,000
Deer house and yards (to be temporarily used for all indoor animals)	55,000
Deer corrals and sheds	12,000
Bird house	75,000
Flying cage	12,000
Wild fowl pond and fences	5,000
Continuation of herbaceous garden with water ponds for water plants, etc.	9,000
Total	<u>\$200,000</u>
Animals for the above	\$25,000
Aquarium at South Boston	100,000
Sewer, fences, superintendent's salary, survey and drawings	25,000
	<u>150,000</u>
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>
Of this needed amount there has already been placed at our disposal about	<u>120,000</u>

Additional sum needed before June 1, 1912 . . . \$230,000

We ask whether it will not be possible for you and the Parkman Fund Committee to arrange for us to have

this amount of money before June 1, 1912, to be expended in this manner as a whole on the items above named but not necessarily in the proportions allotted above to each individual item.

Yours truly,

ROBERT S. PEABODY,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY,
Board of Park Commissioners.

Boston, January 31, 1911.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO ROBERT S. PEABODY, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST AND
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit a report of work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year 1910.

In a tree-sheltered hollow, near Elm Hill avenue and the Seaver street boundary of Franklin Park, an herbaceous garden was started during the past season. This delightful and instructive form of gardening has been known by various names. Grandmother's Garden, a favorite name, carries one back to old-fashioned times and sweet recollections. The hardy garden, as it is frequently designated, has a practical sound; it conveys the idea of planting such things as will exist in our climate without the trouble of housing under glass in winter. The garden at Franklin Park, while a distinctive feature of the park itself, will show what can be done with native and exotic plants of a hardy character in beautifying home grounds. This lesson will be for the cottager, as well as for those who have more pretentious homes and extensive grounds. The garden follows the sinuosities of the shrub bordered tree plantation, extending around two sides of the hollow, a length of about twelve or fifteen hundred feet. Although this planting could not be done until far into June, yet the display in late summer and early fall was most gratifying. Last fall thousands of daffodils, crocuses, snowdrops, scilla, lilliums, etc., were planted for spring blooming; thus the border, as the seasons follow each

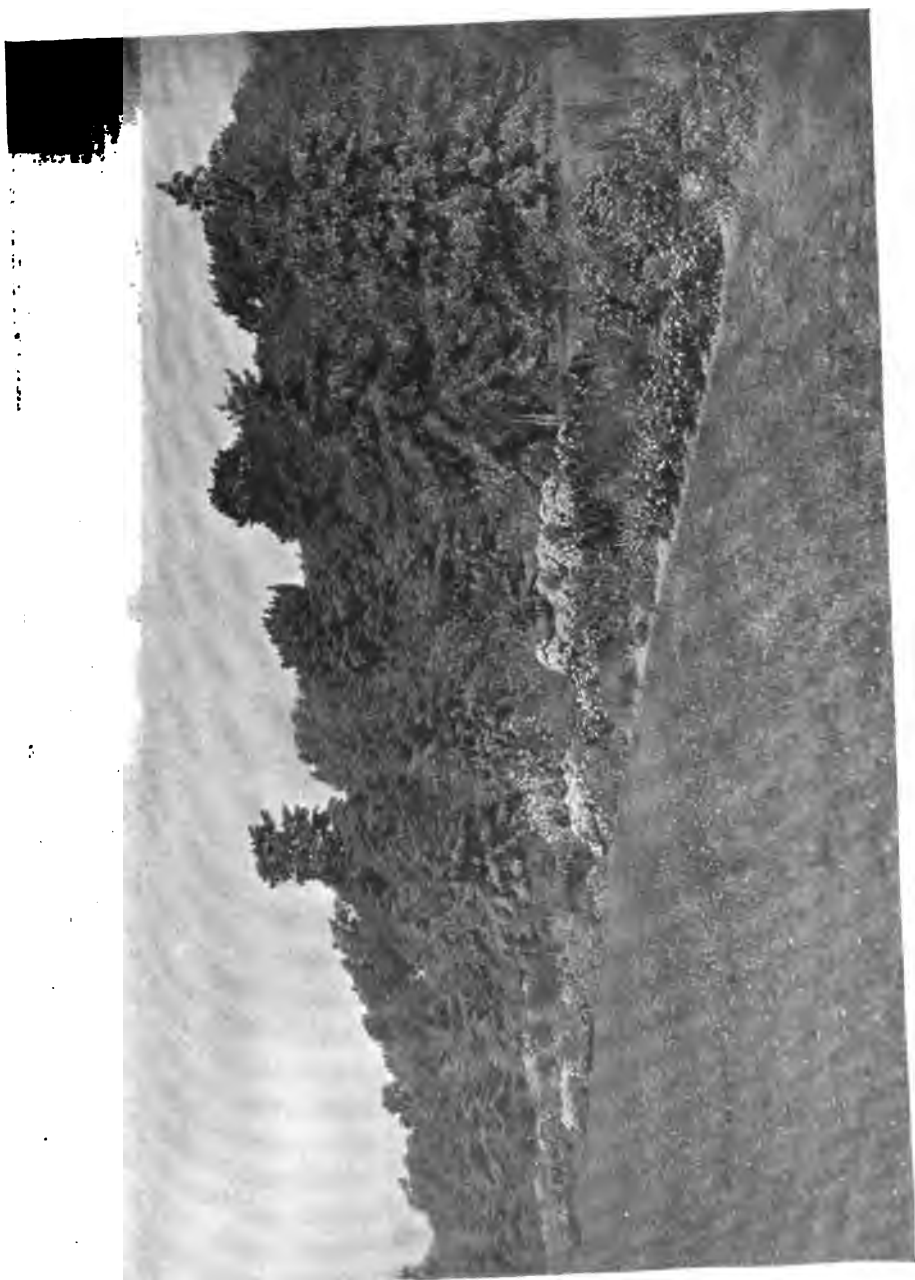
other, will offer varying phases of beauty. The floor of the hollow is a nearly level space, flanked by a bare ridge. The former is well fitted for aquatic gardening, which it is proposed to introduce, and the ridge, when suitably planted, will complete the sense of inclosure and shelter for the garden.

Many of the trees in the young plantations are now from forty to fifty feet in height, and are growing rapidly. Pruning and thinning have been carefully done. The old woodlands continue to improve in health and vigor, due to judicious thinning and the careful conservation of all fallen leaves. These are gathered in the fall into shallow heaps, under the trees, and covered with a little loam, to prevent their being fired, and, when somewhat decayed, the following year, they are spread over the floor of the woodland.

These woodlands are of Nature's planting, and while stunted in growth, yet they give a naturalistic appearance, which the young plantations cannot impart for years to come. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that the growth of the woodland trees, especially where situated on rocky ledges, should be encouraged and strengthened by the addition of loam.

The woodlands of West Roxbury Parkway have received considerable attention. Decrepit or overcrowding trees have been removed, useless undergrowth of tree seedlings, or tree weeds, have been cleared off, and areas of saplings thinned, reserving the best for permanent growth.

During the past year a considerable quantity of undergrowth was planted in the Wilderness in Franklin Park. We have a fine lot of similar material in the nursery, including flowering dogwood (*Cornus Florida*), hemlocks, etc., for planting in the woodlands next season. Evidence of the wear and tear of the undergrowth, caused by the greater use of the parks each



FRANKLIN PARK.—HERBACEOUS BORDER.

year, is becoming more manifest, and its maintenance thereby is seriously interfered with. Restoration, too, is expensive, and, in the face of light appropriations, it is difficult.

As usual, portions of the shrubbery plantations, generally, throughout the department, were renewed. Old and overgrown shrubs were cut down to induce growth from the bottom, or were grubbed out and new plantations were made.

All plantations of trees were thinned. When found suitable for transplantation, the trees marked for removal were root-pruned. During the winter a number of oaks thus prepared were moved with frozen balls and planted at Savin Hill for shading Grampian way, while others were planted along the parkways to replace trees in the lines. Some beeches, too, were planted by the same method on the top of Savin Hill.

Savin Hill, a recent acquisition of the department, is a beautiful, rocky hill of about eight acres, overlooking the upper harbor or Dorchester bay. The principal growth on the hill consisted of wild cherry and horse briar (*Smilax Rotundifolia*), the horse briar forming in many places an impenetrable thicket. The entire area has been cleared of useless or unusable growth; trails have been made and seeded down to red fescue grass; plantations of red cedar (Savin), oaks, beeches, sumac, bittersweet, trumpet vines and other native plants have been made, and a strip of slightly sloping ground at the base of the hill has been graded and seeded down to turf for tennis grounds.

In consequence of the abandonment of the two-row plan of trees on Commonwealth avenue, between Dartmouth street and Massachusetts avenue, the trees in the center of the lawns were removed to the edges and the four-row plan again restored. The transplanted trees are doing very well. The conditions for

growth on Commonwealth avenue, between the two streets named, have been very much improved. The season before last the gravel over the whole area between the trees was excavated to an average depth of three feet six inches and loam composted with manure substituted.

Except a line of young oaks, planted four years ago between Brighton avenue and Warren street, no planting has been done on Commonwealth avenue extension to the Newton line. This is to be regretted, as the possibilities of this fine avenue are thereby lost. In the interest of the city an appropriation should be made for the prosecution of this work.

The nymphæa in Ward's pond were lifted and divided last spring, and their soil beds enriched.

The Fens Playground, although not filled to the grade desired, was leveled off for the season's use, the large amount of excavated material received being diverted to a further extension of the filled area. The playground was much used during the summer. It is conveniently located to the Normal School Group, and serves a large and rather closely populated district. There can be no doubt that this playground, in the future, will be the center of great activity.

On the ten-acre meadow near Boylston Bridge a large amount of filling material is being received from the excavation for a new station at the Park Street Subway. An amount is expected from this source sufficient to raise the grade of the whole of this meadow an average of twelve or fifteen inches. The filling will be covered with a few inches of loam and seeded. This work will throw open for public use a meadow of usable turf, where formerly existed a piece of marsh, the conversion being made possible by the construction of the Charles River Dam and the marginal conduit.

The excavation into the bank, behind the shops in Franklin Park, for yard extension, which has been prosecuted as time could be spared during the past few winters, is now nearly completed. This will provide space for much needed buildings, such as cart sheds, a paint shop, and new duck and swan shelter houses.

The cement concrete manufacturing shop has been kept constantly employed in turning out fence posts, seat posts, drinking fountains, etc. The seat posts required for Charlesbank improvement are ready in stock for use when the weather will permit of their being set out.

At Pine Bank, a 6-inch water main was laid to the department headquarters, for water supply and fire protection.

An appropriation of \$20,000 dollars was received last year for the improvement of Charlesbank. The work is planned and has been commenced. It embraces a granolithic promenade on the Charles river front, flanked by a continuous row of cement-concrete frame seats; crosswalks of granolithic, and an iron picket fence on Charles street. The irrigation plant is completed, and the remainder of the work, it is expected, will be done before summer.

The women's gymnasium at Charlesbank continues its good work, under the supervision of Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells and Mrs. Anna Phillips Williams. An account of this work in detail will be found elsewhere in this report. The attendance at the men's gymnasium for the year was about 182,700.

The total amount appropriated for the maintenance of your department the past year was \$385,000. Drafts, however, were made on this account for construction work of \$56,001.62, leaving a net balance of only \$328,998.38 for the maintenance of the department. This

was inadequate for the purpose. Consequently the quality of the upkeep was not of the standard of excellence which might be expected in a park system of such note as that of Boston. In every department the work had to be slighted to the extent of making the difference between good and barely passable results, while road maintenance was distinctly poor. One thousand nine hundred lineal feet of road resurfacing was done the past year. The amount requiring this treatment is 5,000 lineal feet.

The following table shows the cost of the maintenance of roads for the past eight years, with the average cost per annum for the same period. The cost is for all labor, teaming and road repairs, including resurfacing and oiling for the suppression of dust.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.								
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street.....	60,600	\$0.216	\$0.244	\$0.215	\$0.242	.....	\$0.218			
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line.....	203,700	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.083			
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line.....	264,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.210	.122	\$0.170	\$0.189	\$0.111
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road and Marine Park.....	372,800	.075	.079	.105	.092	.120	.120	.083	.089	.101
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum.....	210,100	.079	.079	.074	.076	.068	.068	.029	.033	.031
Average.....	847,200	\$0.091	\$0.096	\$0.105	\$0.101	\$0.135	\$0.107	\$0.097	\$0.107	\$0.091

Average cost of maintenance per annum for nine years of all park roads except at Chestnut Hill Park, \$0.101 per square yard.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.
COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1902 TO 1910, INCLUSIVE.

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA, Acres.	COST PER ACRE.								
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
1. { Commonwealth avenue.....	*30.0	\$698	\$713	\$628	\$691					
1. { Commonwealth avenue, with extension to Newton line...	112.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$553	\$376	\$463	\$507	\$328
2. Fens.....	115.0	124	126	145	120	169	170	143	121	256
3. Riverway.....	40.0	288	362	321	384	427	450	322	536	349
4. Olmsted Park.....	180.0	128	131	117	129	150	166	137	143	148
5. Arborway.....	36.0	196	190	217	269	300	363	359	224	211
6. Arnold Arboretum.....	†223.0	27	22	26	25	33	31	18	15	14
7. West Roxbury Parkway.....	†150.0	8	3	3	7	7	21	12	20	48
8. Franklin Park.....	527.0	110	111	97	103	106	139	114	136	129
9. Columbia road.....	31.2	140	131	227	233	295	276	173	217	256
10. Strandway.....	71.3	4	14	42	60	125	177	161	136	119
11. { Marine Park.....	52.5	125	118	111	175	174	231	227	223	234
11. { Castle Island.....	25.7									
12. Wood Island Park.....	55.6	118	131	121	143	159	184	179	207	202
13. Charlesbank.....	10.0	1,096	1,100	1,008	933	959	1,161	1,479	1,485	1,453
14. Charlestown Heights.....	6.1	452	369	307	417	489	579	605	619	542
15. Charlestown Playground.....	14.0	109	111	113	107	127	110	109	159	230
16. Dorchester Park.....	26.0	22	18	44	51	69	67	79	58	82
17. Franklin Field.....	77.0	113	78	72	91	92	112	95	87	110
18. Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.6	586	817	823	647	776	1,498	1,250	990	1,210
19. Chestnut Hill Park.....	55.4	67	92	79	106	113	119	108	112	121
20. North Brighton Playground...	14.0	142	76	75	93	99	175	198	219	236
21. Neponset Playground.....	18.0	86	43	76	80	75	77	87	67	75
22. Billings Field.....	11.0	160	93	102	88	92	112	77	139	157
23. First Street Playground.....	4.6	229	241	631	448	519	677	708	810	900
24. Prince Street Playground.....	.4	590	739	2,042	2,257	2,607	2,511	2,930	400	928
25. Mystic Playground.....	2.3	750	328	286	352	497	422	630	294	544
26. Fellows Street Playground....	.85	1,732	806	535	814	1,122	1,184	1,251	259	84
27. Christopher Gibson Play- ground.....	5.8	374	296	258	301	279	261	279	280	258
28. Columbus Avenue Play- ground.....	5.0	629	393	323	453	459	333	394	306	664

* At the end of 1905, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line under the care of the Park Department, making the total improved area of parks, playgrounds and roads now maintained 1,921 acres.

† Of this area only the roads and walks, 16.8 acres, are maintained by the city. ‡ Unimproved.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.—*Concluded.*

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA, Acres	COST PER ACRE.								
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
29. Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	\$20	.....	\$24	\$332	\$439	\$422	\$332	\$341	\$305
30. Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	157	\$108	194	160	328	269	292	374	465
31. Roslindale Playground.....	3.7	413	160	203	235	216	269	198	275	416
32. Forest Hills Playground.....	9.6	14	32	130	86	59	29	79	26	68
33. Rogers Park.....	6.9	164	131	48	167	220	246	132	228	296
34. Cottage Street Playground....	3.8	86	37	122	181	193	337	313	534	655
35. Randolph Street Playground..	2.8	.....	.....	455	725	609	887	1,193	707	922
36. Marcella Street Playground...	5.1	.....	64	272	315	608	490	593	652	646
37. Commonwealth Playground...	8.1	.....	.....	.....	5	71	59	119	145	133
38. William Eustis Playground....	4.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209
39. West Fifth Street Playground..	.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	588
40. West Third Street Playground,	.28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	875
41. Savin Hill Park.....	8.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
42. Trinity Triangle.....	.12	18	.....	184	.....	11	77	37	77	67
43. Oak Square.....	.22	176	368	58	118	93	.....	.....	245	445
44. Berners Square.....	1.2	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	7	45
Average.....	1,935.58	\$115	\$110	\$108	\$120	\$152	\$162	\$150	\$160	\$164

A piece of land containing 13,948 square feet, bordered by Cambridge, Mansfield and Lincoln streets, Brighton, on July 7, 1910, was transferred to the care and custody of the Park Department.

The steepness of the grade of this lot makes it impracticable to adapt it for playground uses. It will, undoubtedly, be of value for business purposes, and it would seem best to sell it and apply the proceeds to the purchase of a more suitable site.

No additions have been made during the past year to the twenty-five playgrounds owned by your department.

Of the construction work performed at the playgrounds the following items were the most important.

At Franklin Field locker building the electric lighting

was installed, and some interior finishing work completed. The basement of the building was painted, flagged and fitted up with seats for the use of skaters.

A stone wall, three and one-half feet high, was built from Talbot avenue corner, on Blue Hill avenue, to a point two hundred feet south of the locker building. Grading, and the planting of trees, shrubs and vines, was done behind the wall, and continued round the front of the building.

A wide terrace, in two plateaus (an upper and a lower), was made in front of the locker building, on which was constructed, on the south half of the lower plateau, a bowling green. This will be ready for play in the spring. On the axis of the front of the building, in the center of a thirty-foot promenade, a large flagstaff was erected. The north half of the lower plateau is large enough for another bowling green, to which purpose it should be applied when the game, which is growing fast in favor, requires more accommodation.

During the past winter, in pursuance of a general plan for the grading of the upland portion of Franklin Field, 2,000 cubic yards of material were excavated on the east side of the old bowling green, and used for grading the terraces.

Last November the work of extending the speedway to Blue Hill avenue was commenced and prosecuted until the hard weather of the beginning of February compelled its postponement. The construction of the work from Talbot avenue to the sheep barn was done by park employees. A contract was let to the John H. Winsloe Contracting Company for excavating on the Stratton street side. The remainder of the work will be done by the Park Department employees in the spring.

At Billings Field a sanitary and spray bath building was erected. The grading and planting of the grounds around the building will be completed next spring.

At Roslindale Playground a sanitary and locker building has been erected. The grading around the building which is partly done, with the planting, will be completed in the spring, and a children's corner constructed.

At Columbus Avenue Playground the sanitary and locker building has been completed, and a children's corner and a boys' athletic field have been made. Concrete post and electrically welded wire fences, ten feet high, built by department employees, inclose these areas. The general playground, containing the baseball diamonds, also has been inclosed by the same style of fence.

At Charlestown and Ashmont playgrounds sanitary buildings have been erected. At the latter place a children's corner has been fenced off from the ball field. A tennis court has been made within this inclosure.

At William Eustis Playground a sanitary and locker building is under construction. A fence, ten feet high, of concrete posts and electrically welded wire has been built around three sides of the playground. Next spring, a concrete post and pipe rail fence will be constructed eight feet distant from the wire fence, on the lot line. The border between will be planted with trees and shrubbery.

At West Third and West Fifth Street Playgrounds grading has been done, loam beds prepared and trees planted on the borders. Open pavilion shelters have been erected at both places, and some children's apparatus installed.

At Neponset Playground the cross ditches have been filled, and about three-fourths of the marsh area has been covered with clayey loam. It is expected that the remainder of the marsh will be covered by spring, when the grading of the field will be done. This will make eighteen acres of excellent playground.

At Prince Street Playground the whole area has been paved with cement-grouted brick. Loam pits have been

prepared for trees, foundations have been laid for apparatus and contracts made for iron picket fences and a cement and stone concrete colonnade, surmounted by concrete flower boxes.

At Strandway Playground a children's corner has been fenced off from the ball field, within which an open-sided pavilion shelter has been erected. The filling of the flats opposite the playground proceeds steadily. Only city refuse, clean in character, is received, which costs the department nothing except the expense of grading.

At Mystic Playground a sanitary building was erected.

At Orient Heights Playground the filling and grading of the four and one-half acres of high marsh is in progress. It is expected that this will be completed in April. The erection of a wire netting fence along its edge on the Chelsea creek side will make it available for a playground.

At Savin Hill Beach an open-sided pavilion shelter was built.

Appropriations for construction work are needed as follows:

Savin Hill Playground.—To provide for a little additional filling and grading, sand for the beach and enlarged accommodation for boy bathers.

Mystic Playground.—To raise the dock wall and to erect thereon a substantial iron fence for the protection of the children.

Rogers Park.—To erect a sanitary building and to do some grading in the playground. Loam is also needed for the planting of trees round the boundary of the playground.

North Brighton Playground.—For fences.

Billings Field.—To secure filling in order to raise the center of the playground; also loam to plant trees round its borders.

Roslindale Playground.— To build a retaining wall. Some filling and grading, also fences, are needed.

Fellows Street Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations.

Cottage Street Playground.— To erect fences.

Forest Hills and Mount Hope Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations and for grading.

Strandway Playground.— To provide sanitary accommodations, grading and fences.

The cost of gypsy moth suppression, during the past year, was about \$22,000. A wider area required treatment, the unimproved West Roxbury Parkway territory being badly infested from the surrounding woodlands. The work was kept well in hand, and no damage of consequence was done to Park Department property.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW, *Superintendent.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE
OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S
DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN,— Within the last five years there has been a noticeable change in the age of the children at Charlesbank. They now are more apt to be under ten than over twelve years of age, which is but a natural consequence of changes in the population of the West End. Yet as older girls need outdoor sport and as their presence acts as safe stimulus to the progress of younger children, a special effort was made last summer to attract grown up girls to Charlesbank. This was accomplished by the introduction of tennis. From the middle of July to the middle of October, almost every afternoon, between five and seven o'clock, twenty-four or more bright, intelligent girls, busy throughout the day in schools or shops, played tennis. It came to be considered as a special privilege granted to them on account of their good conduct.

With the younger children croquet was still their favorite game, all day long and every day. Some of them had never played it before and to them it was the great continuous excitement of their summer life. The out-door platform was often utilized also as a bowling alley with croquet balls and Indian clubs. Relay races and pinwheel parties were very effective, while small articles, such as coat hangers, furnished by the children, were decorated under the supervision of a teacher, who invented many "educational" devices of youthful interest.

The two popular books of the season, from the box sent monthly by the Public Library, were "Betty Leicester's Christmas" and "The Golden Fairy Book." A unique entertainment was a pageant given on the green under the auspices of the Peabody House, which was attractively produced to the delight of all visitors.

From July to September three regular weekly classes met for gymnastic work, free standing and apparatus. One of the classes was composed of women over twenty years of age; total attendance 125. A Jewish kindergarten connected with the Hebrew Industrial School on Charles street again had the fun of meeting for several weeks in the summer at Charlesbank. The one universal great enjoyment is dancing on the green to the music of a hurdy gurdy, mothers, grown-up sisters and little children all taking part in the dance.

Two thousand three hundred and seven spray baths were given between June 1 and October 1. More than twice that number could have been given had there been ampler facilities, as it is hoped there soon will be. The baths are also taken by the pupils of the winter evening classes.

The winter work is indoors, save on such days as it is feasible to play in the snow, do outdoor gymnastic work or slide down the new wooden chute that has been provided for the children. The lodge is open all day on Saturdays, the other week day afternoons and each evening except Saturday. The record of attendance shows the popularity of the place, as for instance in January there came after school and on Saturdays, 3,118 children and 265 girls in the evenings. In May, there were 10,732, of whom 7,401 were children using the gymnasium. In August there were 14,687, of whom 10,107 were in the gymnasium. The total attendance for the year of women and children, coming and going, was about 88,000.

More attention this last winter than in previous years has been given to teaching the children how to knit, and in encouraging them to draw with colored crayons or water color. Under the direction of Miss Virginia Tanner they presented a little drama with remarkable facility for such young actors and dancers.

Miss Ann I. Loftus, the superintendent, is wise, alert and devoted to the interests of the women and children, knowing many of them in their homes. She is ably seconded in the summer by Miss Eleanor H. Quinlan, who also is the pianist of the new piano for the winter classes. So large was the summer attendance that a third assistant teacher was provided, Miss Lanagan, during the vacations of the public schools.

Respectfully submitted,

KATE GANNETT WELLS,
ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS,
Committee.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Playgrounds.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Commonwealth avenue.....	112.7	Arlington street to Newton line.	
Fens.....	115.0	Beacon street to Brookline avenue.....	Five acres playground area. Two ball grounds.
Riverway (in Brookline, 16.5 acres).....	40.0	Brookline avenue and Brookline line to Huntington avenue.	
Olmsted Park (in Brookline, 18 acres).....	180.0	Huntington avenue and Brookline line to Prince street.	Three acres playground area. Tennis, and skating on the pond.
Arborway.....	36.0	Prince street to Franklin Park.	
Arnold Arboretum.....	223.0	South, Centre and Walter streets.	
West Roxbury Parkway.....	150.0	Centre street to Washington street, Bellevue Hill.	Thirty-six acres playground area. Twelve ball grounds, tennis courts, golf links, toboggan slides and skating.
Franklin Park.....	527.0	Seaver street to Morton street and Blue Hill avenue to Forest Hills street.	
Columbia road.....	31.2	Franklin Park to Marine Park.	Twelve acres playground area. Six ball grounds, tennis, children's corner and skating.
Strandway.....	71.3	Columbia road, from railroad bridge to Marine Park.	
Marine Park and Castle Island.....	78.2	Farragut road, City Point.	
Wood Island Park.....	55.6	Neptune road, from Bennington street.....	Ten acres playground area. Four ball grounds, out-door gymnasium, cricket, tennis and skating.
Charlesbank.....	10.0	Charles street, from Cambridge street to Leverett street.	Three and one-half acres playground area. Out-door gymnasium, basket ball, children's playground and skating.
Charlestown Heights.....	6.1	Bunker Hill and Medford streets.....	One acre children's playground.
Dorchester Park.....	26.0	Dorchester avenue and Richmond street.....	One acre playground area. One ball ground and skating.
Franklin Field.....	77.0	Talbot and Blue Hill avenues.....	Sixty acres playground area. Eighteen ball grounds, tennis, cricket, bowling, curling and skating.
North End Beach and Copp's Hill Terraces.....	4.3	Commercial and Charter streets.....	Three acres playground area. Bath Department in charge.
Chestnut Hill Park (reservoir and adjacent lands, 160.65 acres).....	55.4	Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue, Brighton	Four acres playground area. Three ball grounds and tennis.
Savin Hill Park.....	8.26	Grampan way.	
Rogers Park.....	6.9	Lake and Foster streets.....	Four acres playground area. Two ball grounds, tennis, toboggan slide and skating.
Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	Brent street, near Talbot avenue.....	Two ball grounds, tennis and skating.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Playgrounds.—*Concluded.*

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Billings Field.....	11.0	La Grange and Bellevue streets, near Centre street.	Four ball grounds, tennis and skating.
Charlestown Playground.....	14.0	Main and Alford streets.....	Five ball grounds, outdoor gymnasium, handball court and skating.
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	5.8	Dorchester avenue, Geneva avenue and Park st.	Two ball grounds, tennis, children's corner and skating.
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.0	Columbus avenue and Camden street.....	Three ball grounds, children's corner, boy's athletic field and skating.
Commonwealth Playground.....	8.07	C, D and Cypher streets and Mt. Washington avenue.....	Five ball grounds and skating.
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.85	Cottage street, near Maverick street.....	Two ball grounds, children's corner and skating.
Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	Fellows and Hunneman streets.....	Children's playground, basket ball and handball court.
First Street Playground.....	4.6	First and M streets.....	One ball ground, outdoor gymnasium, basket ball and skating.
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.6	Washington and Florence streets.....	Four ball grounds and basket ball.
Marcella Street Playground.....	6.1	Ritchie, Highland and Marcella streets.....	One ball ground and children's corner.
Mystic Playground.....	2.3	Chelsea street and Mystic river.....	One ball ground and children's corner.
Neponset Playground.....	18.0	Neponset avenue.....	Two ball grounds, children's corner and skating.
North Brighton Playground.....	14.0	Western avenue and North Harvard street.....	Three ball grounds and skating.
Orient Heights Playground.....	8.31	Saratoga and Boardman streets.....	Being prepared for ball ground.
Prince Street Playground.....	4	Prince and North Bennet streets.....	Children's playground and basket ball.
Randolph Street Playground.....	2.8	Albany and Randolph streets.....	Two ball grounds, basket ball, children's corner and skating.
Rosindale Playground.....	3.7	South, Robert and South Walter streets.....	One ball ground, tennis and skating.
Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	Springdale and Denny streets.....	Three ball grounds and skating, also bathing beach.
West Fifth Street Playground.....	.41	West Fifth street, between D and E street.....	Children's Playground.
West Third Street Playground.....	.28	West Third street, corner B street.....	Children's Playground.
William Eustis Playground.....	4.88	Norfolk avenue and Proctor street.....	Three ball grounds and skating.
Berners square.....	1.2	Flymouth and Bellevue streets, near Longwood avenue.....	
Oak square.....	.22	Washington and Faneuil streets.....	
Dummy Field.....	6.5	Everett street, Allston.....	Two ball grounds and cricket.

Skating and Tobogganing—Season 1910-1911.

	Number of Days.	Total Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Jamaica Pond.....	44	277,180	6,367
Franklin Field.....	40	121,100	3,027
Scarboro Pond.....	21	10,400	500
Roslindale Playground.....	39	13,175	338
Billing's Field.....	44	16,100	366
Neponset Playground.....	40	14,700	368
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	53	19,085	360
Aahmont Playground.....	48	27,700	580
Savin Hill Playground.....	50	32,200	644
Strandway.....	50	62,100	1,420
Commonwealth Playground.....	44	32,725	744
First Street Playground.....	35	25,200	720
William Eustis Playground.....	49	16,650	340
Randolph Street Playground.....	41	8,675	212
North Brighton Playground.....	43	42,250	983
Charlestown Playground.....	45	21,100	470
Charlesbank.....	27	12,450	457
Wood Island Park.....	47	92,975	1,956
Cottage Street Playground.....	34	37,550	1,104
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	21	7,150	340
		890,435	
Tobogganing.....	30	20,050	668

General Exhibit of Appropriations, 1910-1911.

	Balances, Jan. 31, 1910.	Appropriations, 1910-11.	Transfers From	Transfers To	Total Credits.	Expenditures, 1910-11.	Balances, Jan. 31, 1911.
Public Park Lands.	\$89 75				\$89 75		\$89 75
Asimont Playground, sanitary.	2,407 75				2,407 75	\$2,407 75	
Billings Field, sanitary and shelter.	5,000 00				5,000 00	5,000 00	
Castle Island, sanitary.	143 32				143 32	143 32	
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths.	5,000 00				5,000 00	1,069 84	3,930 16
Charlesbank, improvements.		\$20,000 00			20,000 00	1,063 39	18,936 61
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus.	261 23				261 23		261 23
Charlestown Playground, sanitary.	5,000 00				5,000 00	4,900 25	99 75
Columbus Avenue Playground, sanitary and lockers.	12,000 00				12,000 00	12,000 00	
Commonwealth Playground, sanitary, open-air gymnasium and grading.	2,192 12				2,192 12		2,090 45
First Street Playground, lockers and gymnastic apparatus.	874 99				874 99	101 67	811 32
Franklin Field locker building, completion of.					4,500 00	63 67	1,892 50
Marcella Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus and shower baths.	4,000 78				4,000 78		4,000 78
Marine Park, pier head, completion of.	1,667 28				1,667 28		1,667 28
Mystic Playground, sanitary and shelter.	4,925 00		\$513 00		4,412 00	4,310 75	1,01 25
Neposet Playground, filling and grading.		10,000 00			10,000 00	6,189 04	3,860 96
North Brighton Playground, extension of.	4,118 17				4,118 17	4,118 17	
Orient Heights Playground.	20,000 00				20,000 00	515 07	19,484 93
Park Department, maintenance.		*399,772 60			399,772 60	399,506 84	1,265 76
Playgrounds, improvements.		27,500 00			27,500 00	16,304 15	11,195 85
Playground, Parker Hill.	60,000 00				60,000 00		60,000 00
Playground, Ward 7.	25,000 00				25,000 00		25,000 00
Playgrounds, Wards 7 and 9.	16,831 46				16,831 46		16,831 46
Playgrounds, Ward 13.	4,597 40				4,597 40		1,816 20
Playground, Ward 16.	25,000 00				25,000 00	2,781 20	25,000 00
Playground, Ward 17.	7,067 72				7,067 72		363 63
Recreation Ground, M. N. East Eighth and East Ninth streets and Columbia road.	5,000 00				5,000 00		5,000 00
Roslindale Playground, sanitary.	7,300 00			\$513 00	7,813 00	7,200 22	612 78
Savin Hill Park.	827 72				3,327 72	3,327 72	
Wood Island Park, bandstand.	500 00	2,500 00					500 00
Wood Island Park, flagpole.	500 00						500 00
Zoological Garden and Aquarium.		129,000 00			129,000 00	2,908 14	126,091 86

* Collections on account of labor credited to appropriation, \$6,372.60. † Balance merged.

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction

	Drainage.	Filling and Grading.	Water Supply and Fountains.	Buildings.	Gymnasium Apparatus.
Ashmont Playground, sanitary.....		\$68 00	\$23 25	\$2,258 19	
Castle Island, sanitary.....				143 32	
Charlestown Playground, sanitary.....	\$118 02			5,922 15	
Franklin Field, locker building, etc.....		1,899 26		81 33	
First Street Playground, lockers and gymnastic apparatus.....					
Mystic Playground, sanitary and shelter.....	120 28			4,190 47	
North Brighton Playground, extension of.....	127 06	4,766 71			
Orient Heights Playground.....		500 07			
Savin Hill Park.....		530 96	215 33		
West Third Street Playground.....	15 75	155 44		15 88	\$189 70
West Fifth Street Playground.....		662 17	68 07	15 87	193 37
William Eustis Playground.....	63 99	83 69	65 12	8,237 56	311 15
Roslindale Playground, sanitary.....	244 03	97 55		6,858 64	
Charlesbank, improvements.....			1,053 39		
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths.....				1,069 84	
Billings Field, sanitary and shelter.....		167 75	218 62	6,126 94	
Columbus Avenue Playground, sanitary and lockers.....	174 94	220 75		12,212 77	
Commonwealth Playground, sanitary, open-air gymnasium and grading.....					101 67
Neponset Playground, filling and grading.....		6,139 04			
Franklin Park, Zoological Garden.....					
Marine Park Aquarium.....					
	\$864 07	\$15,291 39	\$1,643 78	\$47,132 96	\$795 89

from February 1, 1910, to January 31, 1911.

Fences.	Walks.	Plantations.	Walls, Curb and Balustrade.	Loam.	Clearing Grounds.	Plans and Estimates.	Land Expenses.	Totals.
.....	\$58 31	.....	.....	.....	\$2,407 75
.....	143 32
.....	6,040 17
.....	\$275 54	\$273 84	\$2,042 25	88 20	.....	.....	.....	4,659 92
\$63 67	63 67
.....	4,310 75
.....	398 38	.....	2,026 02	.....	.....	.....	7,318 17
.....	\$15 00	515 07
.....	954 51	.....	269 50	\$1,339 42	.....	18 00	3,327 72
85 63	214 95	.....	455 56	.....	.....	.....	1,132 91
13 56	89 81	.....	605 44	.....	.....	.....	1,648 29
3,406 45	105 72	87 66	.....	.....	25 00	12,386 34
.....	7,200 22
.....	1,053 39
.....	1,069 84
.....	6,513 31
2,087 54	26 25	.....	.....	.....	14,716 25
.....	101 67
.....	6,139 04
.....	\$1,795 58	.....	1,795 58
.....	1,112 56	.....	1,112 56
\$5,650 85	\$275 54	\$1,930 99	\$2,147 97	\$3,616 94	\$1,339 42	\$2,908 14	\$58 00	\$83,655 94

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance,

	ROADS.		Walks.	Grounds.	Moth Suppression.	Buildings.
	Resurfacing.	Cleaning, Patching and Oiling.				
Commonwealth Avenue.....		\$31,343 48	\$2,164 10	\$3,102 10	\$292 12	
The Fens.....	\$11,625 84	5,187 14	952 74	9,688 20	431 48	\$903 16
Riverway.....		4,620 32	423 44	5,636 04	691 44	2,095 76
Olmsted Park.....		5,628 00	667 32	14,372 84	1,943 00	2,981 60
Arboretum.....		3,240 12	41 54	3,872 60	443 54	
Arnold Arboretum.....		2,115 86	373 86	34 84		564 14
West Roxbury Parkway.....				2,742 98	4,338 92	65 66
Franklin Park.....		4,203 58	1,727 26	34,089 60	10,753 50	9,777 08
Columbia Road.....		4,089 68	2,913 16	621 76	6 70	
Strandway.....		2,269 96	163 48	3,422 36	498 48	1,503 26
Marine Park.....		935 32	521 26	5,204 56	225 12	3,158 38
Wood Island Park.....		18 76	257 28	4,648 46	80 40	1,196 62
Charlesbank.....			913 88	3,359 38	163 48	
Charlestown Heights.....			109 88	2,098 44	33 50	1,065 30
Charlestown Playground.....			52 26	1,938 98		554 76
Dorchester Park.....			5 36	912 54	942 02	125 96
Franklin Field.....		29 48	8 04	2,893 06	375 20	2,692 06
Copp's Hill Terraces.....			321 60	896 64	8 04	
Chestnut Hill Park.....		1,104 16	60 30	4,359 02	738 34	103 18
North Brighton Playground.....			72 36	746 38	20 10	1,732 62
Neponset Playground.....				718 24	14 74	357 78
Billings Field.....				829 46	50 92	527 96
First Street Playground.....			2 68	731 64		2,227 08
Prince Street Playground.....			96 48	274 70		
Mystic Playground.....			21 44	664 64		395 30
Fellows Street Playground.....				71 02		
Christopher Gibson Playground.....				623 10	17 42	585 58
Columbus Avenue Playground.....			64 32	1,612 02	5 36	895 12
Ashmont Playground.....			25 46	745 04	17 42	682 06
Savin Hill Playground.....				995 62		456 94
Roslindale Playground.....			9 38	798 64	56 28	451 58
Forest Hills Playground.....			4 02	332 32	50 92	
Rogers Park.....			34 84	1,429 78	87 10	
Berners Square.....				53 60		
Oak Square.....			12 06	67 00	18 76	
Cottage Street Playground.....			17 42	903 16		928 62
Randolph Street Playground.....				1,206 00		841 62
Marcella Street Playground.....			37 52	1,401 64	16 08	1,664 28
William Eustis Playground.....			1 34	719 58		
Commonwealth Playground.....			8 04	439 52		136 68
West Fifth Street Playground.....			75	229 14		
West Third Street Playground.....			75	241 20		
Savin Hill Park.....					289 44	
Dummy Field.....				1,018 40		
Trinity Triangle.....				8 04		
Miscellaneous.....						
	\$11,625 84	\$64,785 86	\$12,085 62	\$120,254 28	\$22,609 82	\$38,760 84

February 1, 1910, to January 31, 1911.

Bridges and Piers.	CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS			Sheep and Water-fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Miscellaneous.	Totals.
	Grading, Loan and Plantations.	Drainage and Water Supply.	Buildings Walls and Fences.						
\$10 72	\$4,456 84	\$180 90							\$41,550 26
431 48	5,342 58	310 88	\$1,356 08	\$389 94	\$285 42				36,473 46
	795 96	826 78		41 54					15,562 76
				261 30	873 68				26,727 64
									7,597 80
									3,088 70
									7,147 56
	5,728 50	1,070 66	464 98	2,613 00	4,762 36				75,191 42
367 16									7,998 46
	213 06	170 18	1,228 78		580 22				10,139 78
2,225 74			2,390 56		4 02				14,664 96
					996 96	\$4,021 34			11,219 82
					95 14	5,163 02	\$4,834 72		14,529 62
			92 46		399 32	276 04			3,307 12
		36 18			138 02				3,313 82
	9,622 54	288 10	16,751 34	976 86	1,528 94				2,160 08
									35,165 62
	781 22				326 96				726 28
	3,477 30	885 74	305 52		735 66				7,473 18
		25 46			254 60				7,975 68
	585 58		611 04		321 60				1,370 82
					818 74	221 10	138 02		2,926 56
	1,070 66		8,766 28						4,139 26
			113 90		170 18				10,208 12
									1,365 46
		45 66			272 02				71 02
	2,965 42	550 74	1,823 74		742 36				1,543 68
			1,423 08		301 50				8,659 08
	430 14		722 26		1,751 38				3,194 56
			81 74		225 12				4,356 34
	49 58	182 24			268 00				1,622 74
					419 42				655 26
									2,202 96
									53 60
									97 82
					640 52				2,489 72
					357 78		179 56		2,584 86
	22 78		81 74		174 20				3,293 72
					300 16				1,125 60
					490 44				1,074 68
					2 68		8 04		240 61
	3,906 10	601 66			2 68				244 63
					121 94				4,797 20
									1,140 34
									8 04
								\$8,026 14	8,026 14
\$3,035 10	\$39,448 26	\$5,175 08	\$36,213 50	\$4,282 64	\$18,362 02	\$9,681 50	\$5,160 34	\$8,026 14	\$399,506 84

INCOME.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year	\$349 94
Received for labor	9,022 66
Received from sale of buildings, wool, sheep, grass, wood, use of soap and towels, etc.	1,855 92
Rents	2,657 50
	<u>\$13,886 02</u>

PAYMENTS.

Appropriation Park Department	\$9,372 60
Income carried to general city income	4,513 42
	<u>\$13,886 02</u>

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1911.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Assess- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Jan. 31, 1911.
Public Park, Back Bay...	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor....	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River..	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury..	154,107 00	113,808 00	40,299 00	31,913 00	8,386 00
" Dorchester.....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,696 98</u>	<u>\$397,056 02</u>	<u>\$383,694 30</u>	<u>\$13,361 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1911 \$16,331,910 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund January 31, 1911 8,274,193 34
 Net Debt January 31, 1911 \$8,057,717 64

Park Statistics to January 31, 1911.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM:									
Commonwealth avenue.....	1894-1905	.....	\$121,607 93	\$121,607 93	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles	1.1 miles	22 acres
Fens.....	1877-1879	\$596,254 49	2,150,875 44	2,747,129 93	115 "	4 "	6.7 "	1.2 "	8 "
* Riverway.....	1890	457,457 53	674,109 35	1,131,566 88	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.6 "	77 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890 and 1892	1,081,947 60	734,373 59	1,816,321 19	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.4 "	0.6 "
Arboretum.....	1892	245,584 25	381,793 81	627,378 06	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882 and 1895	79,354 15	388,372 84	467,726 99	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	2.4 "	7.4 "
West Roxbury Parkway...	1894	135,265 29	22,123 21	157,388 50	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	1 mile	
Franklin Park.....	1883 and 1884	1,551,896 63	2,430,714 98	3,982,611 61	527 "	7.3 "	14.9 "		
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899	447,528 63	540,511 93	988,040 56	{ 102.5 " land 194 " flats }	4.2 "	4.5 "		
Dorchesterway.....	1892	63,735 54	65,187 12	128,922 66					
Strandway.....	{ 1890, 1892, 1897 and 1901 }	772,515 12	390,558 96	1,163,074 08	{ 52.5 " land 4.9 " flats 26.7 " land 78.3 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.3 "	.....	3.4 "
Marine Park.....	1883	232,972 57	1,060,418 73	1,293,391 30					
† Castle Island.....	1890	.....	38,185 55	38,185 55					
Carried forward.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$8,998,833 44	\$14,663,345 24	1,841.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1911.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$3,998,833 44	\$14,663,345 24	1,841.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1892 and 1891	132,800 00	259,273 53	392,073 53	{ 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats }	0.3 mile	2.1 "		
CHARLESBANK.....	1893	373,916 99	315,571 36	689,488 35	10 "	.....	1.5 "		
** TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1895	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.12 acre	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,107 56	153,645 58	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats }	.....	0.4 mile		
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND...	1891	172,923 31	31,670 95	204,594 26	{ 14 " land 4 " flats }	.....	0.6 "		
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	26 "	.....	.....
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 23	162,894 10	320,235 32	77 "	0.35 "	0.35 "		
NORTH END BRACE.....	1893	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 13 " flats }	.....	.....
COPP'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,858 19	32,001 46	122,859 65	0.6 acre	.....	0.11 "		
* CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898, 1899 and 1902 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	.....	
NORTH BRIGHTON P L A Y - GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	30,802 77	52,909 89	14 "	.....	.....
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 89	22,328 39	47,132 78	18 "	.....	.....
BELLING FIELD.....	1896	47,068 98	23,271 31	70,340 29	11 "	.....	.....
|| FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND,	1897	.....	30,029 08	30,029 08	4.6 "	.....	0.4 "		
<i>Carried forward.</i>.....	.....	\$7,869,638 89	\$10,199,518 00	\$17,569,156 89	2,304.42 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1911.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$7,369,638 89	\$10,199,518 00	\$17,569,156 89	2,304.42 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
1 FREEMONT STREET TRI- ANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
PRINCE STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	{1897, 1899} {and 1901 }	180,474 70	434 07	180,908 77	0.4 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,125 00	8,190 16	58,315 16	2.3 acres	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 FELLOWS STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1897	14,503 72	7,032 64	21,536 36	0.85 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897.....	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres	.....	.....	.....	.....
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{1899, 1900} {1901, 1902 }	327,503 84	33,297 51	360,801 35	5 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	8,000 00	51,990 09	2.2 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
SAVIN HILL PLAYGROUND.....	1899	27,147 30	11,129 36	38,276 66	{ 6.9 " land 11.7 " flats	.....	.....	.....	.....
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.....	1899	24,325 11	13,392 93	38,218 04	3.7 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND..	1902	25,166 75	.....	25,166 75	9.6 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
COTTAGE STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1902	47,002 32	7,997 68	55,000 00	3.85 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
RANDOLPH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	27,302 32	283,742 95	2.8 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Carried forward.</i>.....	.....	\$8,408,527 93	\$10,326,337 42	\$18,734,865 35	2,359.66 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1911.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>		\$8,408,527 83	\$10,326,337 42	\$18,734,865 35	2,359.86 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
MARCELLA STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903, 1905	.....	31,154 50	31,154 50	5.1 "				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	3,853 11	33,853 11	6.9 "				
BURNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 "				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	682 34	0.22 acre				
COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905	.....	7,909 55	7,909 55	8.07 acres				
SAVIN HILL PARK.....	1909	31,925 55	5,574 45	37,500 00	8.26 "				
ORIENT HEIGHTS PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,015 00	500 07	10,515 07	8.31 "				
WEST THIRD STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	1,132 91	11,334 21	0.28 acre				
WEST FIFTH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	1,648 29	11,849 59	0.41 "				
WILLIAM EUSTIS PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	66,322 37	18,996 25	85,318 62	4.88 acres				
<i>Carried forward.</i>		\$8,567,193 45	\$10,398,083 59	\$18,965,277 04	2,402.29 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1911.—*Concluded.*

Parks.	Year of Purchase or Taking.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$8,567,193 45	\$10,398,083 59	\$18,965,277 04	2,403.29 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
* CAMBRIDGE, LINCOLN AND MANSFIELD STREETS.....	1910	.....	.....	.....	0.32 acre				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....		245 29	.....	245 29					
General account.....		\$8,567,438 74	\$10,398,083 59	\$18,965,522 33					
Park Nursery.....		.....	73,987 50	73,987 50					
Betterment expenses.....		.....	29,947 07	29,947 07					
		.....	13,356 10	13,356 10					
		\$8,567,438 74	\$10,515,374 26	\$19,082,813 00	2,403.61 acres	43.85 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

* An additional area of 16½ acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to the city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

** Transferred to Street Department.

*** Transferred to Public Grounds Department.

1 25,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by the Public Grounds Department.

2 Transferred from, and \$90,000 expended for land by the Public Grounds Department.

3 Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

4 Transferred from School Department.

5 Custody given to the city by Statutes 1891, chapter 421

6 Transferred from Street Commissioners.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.

REPORT OF OLMSTED BROTHERS.

MR. R. S. PEABODY, *Chairman Board of Park Commissioners, Boston, Mass.:*

DEAR SIR,— At your request we have made a careful inspection of the Boston parks and submit below our comments and suggestions on matters of design connected therewith:

Commonwealth Avenue.— This avenue, owing to its location and width and to the character and value of the private improvements adjoining it, must be considered as the most important avenue in Boston. What it needs to make it satisfactory is a very considerable amount of architectural and sculptural ornamentation. Until funds become available for this purpose the aim should be to improve its present simple elements of adornment, namely, the trees and turf, and to maintain it as perfectly as possible. Two topics of late years have given rise to considerable discussion, namely, the kind and distribution of trees and the arrangement of statues.

As regards the trees, our opinion is that they should have been of one kind from Arlington street to Massachusetts avenue. Owing to the unfavorable conditions as to soil and climate, the choice has been purposely limited to elms, European and American. Both have been planted. They are not exactly alike, yet their differences in general appearance are not so great as to make it necessary in our opinion that all the trees of one of these species should be destroyed to make way for those of the other. We approve of the preference given of late years to the European elm.

As regards distribution, the central grass plots one hundred feet wide were originally planted with four rows. A few years ago the plan was adopted and partly executed of changing to two rows by planting young trees between the rows of older trees with the intention (partly accomplished) of removing the older trees as soon as the young trees should have attained a fair size. More recently the original plan of four rows has been reverted to. We deem this last a reasonable and practical policy. The arguments in favor of two rows are sound from an arboricultural viewpoint, but are not of as great weight from an æsthetic viewpoint, while, as a matter of policy, this appears to us to be a case in which it is proper for the administrators of public funds to be guided by due regard for the opinions, strongly and unmistakably expressed, of a decided majority of that portion of the public most directly interested, and which would, in all probability, be acceded to by a popular vote, should such a method of ascertaining popular opinion be resorted to. In other words, the policy of planting two intermediate rows of trees and of destroying the other four rows was so obviously flying in the face of popular prejudice that it was unwise considering that it was not esthetically necessary ever to have adopted it, and we approve of its abandonment.

As regards the placing of statues, we are confident that the present apparent policy of placing statues and monuments along the center of the middle promenade in indefinite numbers is a bad one. Theoretically the most valuable opportunity which the existence of the middle promenade affords is that of a vista or formal narrow view with some effective architectural or sculptural object at each end and framed in, right and left, by rows of trees. This vista is so long and especially so narrow, however, with four rows of trees, that it does not appear to us important for good effect that it should extend

entirely uninterrupted from Arlington street to Massachusetts avenue. We should like to see some form of "square" formed at the Massachusetts avenue end which could be dignified and accented by some form of architectural treatment such as a colonnade or triumphal arch, which should exhibit recognition of the fact that the middle promenade had not come to an end, but merely to a turning point. Such a structure would tend to mask the private buildings which now terminate the vista on a diagonal line. It did not appear to us in looking the other way that it was important to clear the vista to the Washington Monument in the Public Garden. We judged that it would be satisfying to the eye if about three blocks or so together were kept free from central monuments, then a block with one monument at the middle of its longitudinal axis, or possibly with a monument near each end, then another series of blocks with the center line unobstructed and so on. There would be no objection to a low curbed fountain basin or bed of low plants on the center line of one of the blocks between monuments.

It would conceivably be pleasing to frame each block with cut stone, either in the form of a low molded coping, diversified by slightly larger piers, or in the form of a more elaborate low balustrade, more or less hidden by ornamental creepers and diversified by ornamental electric trolleys, entrance piers and so forth. If such a plan were to be seriously considered, the present profile of the avenue which rises to the middle of each block something like twenty or twenty-four inches, apparently, might have to be modified, at least in the central plots. This consideration led to the thought that the central promenade might be very slightly lowered at the middle of the plots and moderately raised at the ends of the blocks and might be carried across the roadways of the cross streets as a continuous pavement or at any rate without the irk-

some break caused by the existing curbs and gutters and the disagreeable interruption of the color and texture of the central promenade due to the existing change to the brick paving of the crossing sidewalks.

Assuming four rows of trees, it appeared desirable that the two middle rows should be trimmed to rather high trunks, both as increasing the effect of spaciousness of the central vista and as a recognition of the need of light and air for the good of the grass under the trees. On the other hand, it seemed that the effect as a whole would be better to encourage a fairly low foliage on the trees of the two outer rows, at least on their side toward the roadway because a little greater screening of the buildings bounding the avenue would be rather pleasing than otherwise to persons resorting to the central promenade for the enjoyment of its trees and turf.

The existing benches while sufficiently comfortable and eminently economical are somewhat strikingly displeasing to the eye, because the supports rise out of the ground so very diagonally and because they are so placed as to seriously contract the effect of liberal breadth and continuity of alignment of the central promenade.

As regards trees on the sidewalks of Commonwealth avenue, we are of opinion that they are undesirable, partly because the sidewalks are too narrow for any but very slim trunked trees, partly because of the difficulty of keeping in a healthy condition trees which either by careful pruning or by their naturally small growth might be kept within suitable dimensions, but mainly because most residents on the north side do not occupy their houses in hot weather, when shade would be grateful, but, on the contrary, want all the sun they can get, while the residents on the south side want all the light they can get even though they get no sun to speak of on the fronts of their houses, and both classes of residents would for the most part prefer to have their view of the

trees and turf of the central plots unobstructed, and especially to have the architecture of their houses and of their neighbors kept fully open to view. These objections to sidewalk trees would not apply to the use of shrubs in moderation, or even very small trees in the front yards of houses. For this purpose evergreens, such as tree box, retinospora and so forth, could be used even though they are not strictly hardy, because the very fact that they could survive only a few years at most would insure against undesirable darkening of windows and obstruction of view.

It is of great importance that a uniform sidewalk paving should be laid in order to secure the dignity and harmony of treatment which should characterize the avenue.

The wearing cushion of the macadam of the driveways should be continually cleaned and renewed. The hardening of the surface by the use of binding oil is better than mud and dust and for economy of maintenance, but it soon becomes exceedingly disagreeable in appearance and slippery for horses and the oily particles are injurious to clothing and are liable to be tracked into houses. Also the surface becomes so hard as to be noisy. The park funds are utterly inadequate to the best style of maintenance of all portions of the park system and it may for years be impracticable to spend more than is spent in maintaining the parks in general, but it appears to us that it would be proper to have a law by which, with the consent of the owners of a majority of the frontage on either or both sides of such an important avenue, the adjoining real estate could be assessed for the cost of an extra good style of improvement and maintenance.

Commonwealth avenue in the block between Massachusetts avenue and Charlesgate West was intentionally designed and improved in a relatively informal style as an æsthetic recognition of its close relationship to the

Fens and of its use as part of the great, wide parkway system, extending several miles to Franklin Park. Although Commonwealth avenue had been laid out and was then roughly graded a couple of blocks beyond the Fens to the intersection of Brookline avenue, there had been nothing in the history of the street development of the city that made it at all probable that the old established and partially built up Beacon street west of Brookline avenue and Brighton avenue would be, as they have been, so liberally widened and improved as to be worthy continuations of the Commonwealth avenue of the Back Bay. Electric cars and automobiles had not been invented. It was seemingly probable that the vast expenditure contemplated in the improvement of the Fens and the handsome parkway designed in connection with it would lead to the gradual extension of the Back Bay class of private improvements over the portion of the about-to-be-filled Back Bay south of the railroad instead of out toward the Brighton district of the city, which was then suffering, from a real estate view-point, under a cloud, due to its reputation as the region of slaughter houses. Hence it was not thought necessary to continue the formal arrangement of the drives, walks and grass plots west of Massachusetts avenue. To have done so it was felt would have resulted in a sharp right-angled turn in the pleasure driving at Charlesgate and thus would have expressed the idea that the drives leading south at that point were entirely subordinate and inferior in importance and interest to the direct line of travel which would inevitably have appeared to be that continuing westerly toward the fifty-foot Beacon street and Brighton with its connotation of cattle yards and slaughter houses. The conditions have so completely changed, west of the Brookline avenue intersection, that it may well appear extraordinary and illogical to an architect, or real estate expert,

or to many others, that such an informal aspect should characterize this short part of this otherwise extremely formal avenue. Hence we have ventured to burden this report with the above explanation of the motives of the design. The practical question has no doubt occurred to many, whether the double driveway and formal central grass plot arrangement of Commonwealth avenue should not now be continued straight across the Charlesgate informal park treatment. We have considered the question deliberately and without prejudice. Our conviction is that the change would not be desirable. The present arrangement is perfectly convenient, especially as leading gracefully into the Fens south of the railroad. It is artistic, because it expresses the main purposes, desirable to be recognized, in a graceful and interesting way, and it forms a pleasing incident in an otherwise monotonous treatment of Commonwealth avenue. A similar curvilinear arrangement of the portion of the avenue between Charlesgate West and the Brookline avenue intersection was designed and executed but was some years later reconstructed on formal lines by order of one of Boston's forceful mayors, doubtless at the urgent solicitation of some of the owners of contiguous lots, who felt that the change would improve the selling value of their lots and who naturally cared little as to their future residential value which we considered was reasonably to be expected as the result of an arrangement which increased the amount of grass area close to the lots on the south side and kept the broad dusty or muddy expanse of macadam at a greater distance.

Charlesgate.—The general remarks which shall be made in connection with the Fens with respect to the change from salt water to fresh water in the lake and to the planting on slopes apply to this. The change to fresh water has produced a foul place where a salt marsh

was planned near the high retaining wall. This place should be filled up three feet or so and planted. It was designed to have boating connection between the lake in this park and Charles River Basin by means of locks or runways with rollers and to recognize the waterway connection as frankly as possible. Tide gates to prevent the inflow of water during high water were provided, but boating not having proved popular in the Fens, the boating connecting was never constructed. Now that Charles River Basin has been made a fresh water area and at the same level as the lake in Charlesgate and the Fens, it has become very important, as well as easier, to make this desirable connection. It is understood that the Charles river embankment or promenade will be carried across the opening of the Charlesgate waterway into the Charles River Basin, but should be provided with an adequate bridge. The proposed electric railway subway should of course pass under the boating connection.

A very important point of design appears to have been lost sight of since the construction of Ipswich street, along and immediately south of the railroad. A great and otherwise unnecessary expense was incurred for the purpose of making Boylston Arch so wide and so high as to afford a very picturesque view through this great granite arch from the low and unimposing Commonwealth avenue steel girder bridge. It was expected that the sight of this charming bit of landscape would still further tempt persons going west on Commonwealth avenue to turn south toward the Fens. This valuable view is now much obstructed and greatly injured by an ugly high board fence along the railroad. This should be replaced by a light open steel picket fence along the north side of the Ipswich Street Bridge and approaches. A little ingenuity is needed to meet the practical requirements of the railroad here, but it would

be well worth while to open the view. It would also be well to improve the appearance of the railroad and street bridges by growing vines on wire mesh about as wide as from the rails to the bottom of the girders and held to these by brackets leaving ample space for inspection and painting. The same remark applies to the Commonwealth Avenue Bridge and to that at the embankment.

The boulders introduced for the purpose of forming bold, steep points for picturesque effect have been allowed to become bare and ugly. They were intended to be covered with verdure, with only a glimpse of the rock here and there, to assure the eye of the stability of such abrupt points. There are many more instances throughout the parks where picturesque effects of planting have (doubtless from motives of economy) been lost or are constantly deteriorating, while the areas covered with grass and trees or scattering large shrubs are correspondingly being increased. No part of Charlesgate between the waterway and the walls or fences was intended to have turf upon it as these contracted slopes are not suitable for visitors to stroll or lounge upon. Hence, they were designed to be covered with wild flowers, low shrubs, vines, ferns and the like, to be seen and enjoyed from the surrounding walks and drives, and from boats. It is understood that this effect has been replaced by grass, with scattering large shrubs, showing much bare, washing earth under them, partly because of the increasing shade of trees, but mainly because the class of men employed to care for the planted ground understood or could attend to grass land and did not appreciate or want to plant ferns and other wild plants suitable for the preservation of the original design.

The steep banks of the waterway just north of Commonwealth Avenue Bridge should have rather tall but compact, slow growing shrubs, with a shade enduring

ground cover, both to keep open the view of Charles River Basin from Boylston Arch and because any trees on such a restricted area would shade out the tall shrubs needed there to screen from the view looking west on Commonwealth avenue the houses west of Charlesgate West. Near this latter border compact growing trees are needed to screen these houses above the range of the tops of the tall shrubs above referred to. Other details of planting were discussed with your landscape architect and need not encumber this report.

The Fens.— The landscape design of the Fens was to create a salt creek bordered by salt marshes inclosed by high banks intended to be covered with wild flowers, low, compact shrubs, vines and creepers and scattering trees — enough with the street trees to fairly well screen the future adjoining houses, but not enough to unduly shade out the ground cover. There are to be found many examples of this type of landscape where the little fresh-water rivers of New England come to the sea level and mingle with the salt water at some harbor or cove. It is always seen and remembered with keen delight by artists and lovers of natural scenery, but had probably never before been conceived of as a thing to be imitated in laying out a public park.

The reasons which led the landscape designer of the Fens to imitate this particular type of scenery and the circumstances which led up to them are not widely known and may be briefly described as follows:

Stony brook originally emptied into a salt creek at Roxbury Crossing, and at high tide spread over extensive salt marshes. The filling of streets and lots was gradually extended southwesterly along both sides of the Providence Railway and northwesterly from the higher land of old Roxbury. The latter improvements were largely for a cheap class of occupancy, and, for economy, the lots and many of the streets were made at

too low an elevation. So long as the unfilled area of salt creeks and marshes northwestward to the Mill Dam (Beacon street) remained adequate in area, and so long as Stony brook, north of Roxbury Crossing, was not interfered with, and so long as the sewage delivered into the salt creeks was comparatively small in amount and was greatly diluted at every tide, no serious inconvenience was experienced, but all these conditions were gradually changed. At the time the Fens were purchased for a public park the low region, especially that east of the Providence Railway, was suffering from frequent flooding of cellars and lots, and occasionally these floods rose so high as to cover some streets one or two feet deep and the flood water was much polluted with sewage. Not only did the sewers fail to carry off the rain water which fell on the low part of the city, because of the height of the water at their outlets, but the flood water of Stony brook actually flowed back through the sewers toward the low section of the city. The flow of Stony brook had been gradually confined into a series of walled open ditches, covered ditches and street culverts, all of which were much too small. The problem of a remedy for this inconvenient and unhealthy condition had been forced upon the attention of the City Engineer before the Back Bay Fens park was acquired. The simple and obvious remedy, a great covered channel, say about the size of a railway tunnel from Roxbury Crossing to Huntington avenue, and the retention of all the salt marsh area thence to Beacon street, and the construction of a large storm sewer from the low district to the marshes north of Huntington avenue was considered impossible because of the prohibitive expense of acquiring the hundreds of acres of marsh land required as a storage basin. Hence when the movement for a public park to be located in the Back Bay resulted in the

acquisition of an area of 106 acres, the City Engineer planned to use it as a storm water storage basin for Stony brook. The land owners had stipulated that a boundary street must be constructed in the park along its boundary. The City Engineer contemplated excavating the salt marshes between the east and west boundary streets and protecting the gravel slopes with a granite pitched surfacing like that then customary for city waterworks reservoirs.

The park designer subsequently employed by the Park Commission did not contemplate this project of the City Engineer with much satisfaction and set about devising some form of water storage basin which should be more in accord with his ideas of park beauty. The project which he devised was based upon the City Engineer's idea of storm water storage. The City Engineer's idea of an adequate tunnel which should deliver the surplus storm water of Stony brook into the park at Huntington avenue was accepted as unavoidable at any reasonable limit of expense. The large storm water sewer emptying into Charles river for the relief of the low part of the Roxbury district was, of course, agreed to, including the City Engineer's idea of a relief gate by which the storm flow could be delivered during extraordinarily high tides only, into the Fens. It was promised that there should be practically no offensive sewage permitted to get into the big Stony brook conduit. The proposed Roxbury storm sewer was to empty into the Fens only at rare intervals, and then only for two hours or so during extreme high water. It was acknowledged that even diluted as it would be with rain water it would be somewhat foul and would become more so until at some time in the future it should be made less so by a separate system of sewers from which storm water would be excluded so

the sewage could be economically disposed of down the harbor. On his side the City Engineer conceded a very considerable lessening of the storage capacity of the park required for gentler and more varied natural slopes, the wider drives and sidewalks, the bridle path and the shore walk, and the points and islands contemplated by the landscape designer. The latter proposed to reduce the liability of the earth slopes to be washed out, not only by making them gentler almost everywhere than a reservoir embankment, but by covering them with trees, shrubs, plants and creepers which could endure an occasional brief submergence under salt or brackish water, and by lessening the space which waves would have in which to be raised by the wind by means of points and islands, and to increase the friction of the waves and thus keep down their height and velocity by means of salt marsh. It was agreed that the existing and new salt marsh should be lowered to two feet below the natural marsh level in order to increase the storage capacity of the basin. The basin was to be kept salt water because salt marsh flooded twice daily with salt water would not be a breeding place for mosquitoes, malarial or otherwise, nor would it be unsanitary in any other way as fresh water would in such a shallow basin as was contemplated. The diurnal rise and fall of the salt water was to be from about half a foot over the salt marshes to one foot or so below them. The salt water was to be taken in by the Muddy river conduit under Brookline avenue and let out by way of Charlesgate, and was to be controlled in each case by tide gates.*

The outlet at Charlesgate was to be so large that the Fens could be quickly relieved of any surplus storm water which might at any time have been run into the

* The original plan was for Muddy river to be taken to Charles river entirely independent of the Fens. Several years later, in 1885, when the Muddy river conduit was built a connection was made so that it could be used as stated.

basin from Stony brook. This project was approved by the Park Commission and the preparation of plans proceeded accordingly.

The more or less eccentric and not always graceful alignment of the surrounding pleasure drives was determined by Mr. Thomas Doane, an engineer employed by the Park Commission, before the landscape designer had been called in, mainly to suit the requirements and whims of the owners of the land then about to be purchased. This was because the City Council, in authorizing the appropriation for the purchase of land, limited the price to ten cents a square foot, possibly (in the minds of some) with the expectation that this limitation would defeat the project. In order to get the land at this low price the boundaries had to be adjusted pretty much as the owners wanted them. The main (wider) drive, wide sidewalk, bridle path and shore walk should presumably have followed the west boundary since this would have been the shorter and therefore cheaper route to the Muddy river end of the Fens. But unfortunately the soft mud and water along this side of the park proved to be very deep to hard bottom. For economy of filling therefore the more spacious pleasureways were made to follow the east boundary. It was hoped, by means of gentle curves and by making the side driveway and walk for access to lots along the west boundary from near the railroad to near Boylston street very narrow, to insensibly guide drivers from the railroad bridge across Boylston Arch and so into the main driveway along the east border. Such an artistic "trick" did not seem absurd when it was considered how easily one might get steered away from a general direction one might have in mind to take in the down-town or old part of Boston, where the crooked streets are like a maze to a stranger, but alas! the lot owners felt that the narrowness of the side drive along that part of the boundary hindered the sale of their

lots, so, after some years, they prevailed upon the park commission to widen this side drive, thereby in great measure defeating the purpose of the original design which had been thoughtfully contrived for the greatest good of the greatest number of people.

The Huntington avenue entrance was designed with a tree planted street on each side of a formal canal, the side slopes of which were to be beautified by creeping roses and other flowering plants. This canal was intended to conduct the occasional surplus storm flow of the big Stony brook conduit from its termination at Huntington avenue to the main water way in the Fens. Except during storms this canal contained salt water which backed in from the salt waterway of the Fens. This salt water was adequately changed by the system of tidal rise and fall before described. It was expected that such sediment as might be deposited in it would be removed as often as desirable so as to protect the main waterway from accumulations of sediment. For this purpose the salt water in the Fens could be let out into Charles river at any low tide so the sediment could be economically handled. It is probable that the changing of the salt water by means of the tide gates was not properly attended to and it is possible that the almost complete elimination of sewage from the Stony brook conduit by means of adequate intercepting sewers and a separate sewerage system was not accomplished, as had been planned by the City Engineer, and it may be that the sediment deposited in this canal and in the Fens was not removed as frequently as it should have been. At any rate, it is a matter of common observation that this canal and the adjoining part of the waterway in the Fens became and remained foul for years. After the construction of the Charles River Dam the tidal method of changing the water in this canal was put a stop to and the foul condition of the water in it became

intolerable. The Stony brook conduit was extended to the main waterway in the Fens and the canal was filled up to the street elevation. The inevitable accumulation of sediment and sludge will hereafter be in the main waterway of the Fens and will presumably have to be removed by dredging. The big Stony brook conduit ought to be extended to Charles River Basin, partly because the waterway in the Fens is too small to receive so much contamination, and partly because the sediment could be removed from Charles River Basin by dredge into barges which could be passed through the locks of the dam and dumped out at sea, a process which would be much more economical as well as better for the Fens than the present one of taking the sediment from the dredge by small barges to shore in the Fens and there loading it into wagons, presumably to be taken to a sea-going barge at Charles River Basin.

The change above referred to in the layout of Huntington avenue entrance was not an improvement in appearance. As originally built it was a decidedly attractive and picturesque feature of the park. The triple span bridge, with groined arches, built of cheerful speckled yellow brick, with Italian Renaissance architectural detail of unusually refined character, designed by one of the leading architects of Boston, was one of the most beautiful structures of its kind in the world. It was torn down and its place taken by an earth fill. Beautiful structures are not yet so abundant in Boston that the loss of this one was a matter of small consequence. It seems to us that for a few thousand dollars extra cost the Stony brook conduit might have been relocated a short distance back and might then have been extended under one of the side drives to the waterway in the Fens, leaving the canal with its flowery banks and the beautiful bridge as they were, except that a fountain might have been added to cause a sufficient agitation

and movement of the water in the canal to prevent stagnation. As it is now, the whole Huntington avenue entrance is a perfectly uninteresting, commonplace affair which no one would trouble to glance at a second time.

The construction of the Charles River Dam has been an immense municipal improvement. It has changed the Charles river, from the dam up to Watertown, from a tidal estuary in which the tide rose at times three or four feet, or even more, above mean high water, greatly to the detriment of much low land more or less fully occupied by buildings or soon to be so utilized, and in which estuary, at every low tide, foul mud flats were exposed, into a fresh water basin in which the water surface is permanently maintained at an elevation about two to two and a half feet below salt marsh level, thus relieving low lands tributary to it from being flooded. The consequent change from salt water to fresh water and no tidal fluctuation has revolutionized the fundamental conditions which governed the original design for the improvement of the Fens. Not only has the salt creek style of landscape been made impossible of retention owing to the replacing of its salt water by fresh water, but the lowered salt marshes, formerly kept beautiful and sanitary by the daily tidal flooding with salt water, have been turned into foul-looking mud and fresh water swamp and a breeding place for mosquitoes and malaria. This unsanitary condition is being gradually obviated by filling over the marshes with city ashes, street sweepings and earth from excavations. So far as observed, the intention appears to be to cover such of these areas as are large enough with cinders and binder for ball grounds, and to surround these prepared areas with wire netting on wooden frames some ten or twelve feet high to keep the balls from going into the river.

We must say that this is a savage waste of landscape park which was created for landscape beauty at an enormous cost. It is no more reasonable than it would be to occupy portions of the reading rooms of the Boston Public Library with swings and gymnastic apparatus for the free use of the poor children of the city. It is perfectly right and proper that the city should provide playgrounds for its children, but it is most extravagant and unwise to put such ugly playgrounds in the meadows of the Fens.

It will be perfectly feasible to create by filling with proper soil and to maintain smooth, nearly level lawns in the Fens where the salt marshes were or are, and it will be reasonable to permit ball playing upon them under such regulations as will prevent the turf from being worn out. Our suggestions are that the use of these meadows be strictly confined to boys and girls of the grammar school age and to tennis players, and that baseball be limited to certain days and hours of the week and that all playing be prohibited whenever, in the judgment of the superintendent, the turf is too dry or too wet to stand the trampling. The meadows should have gentle slopes to ensure proper surface drainage, in order to prevent the grass from being killed by ice in winter, and the surface should be sufficiently high above the water level to enable agricultural tile subsurface drainage to work properly. Such lawns being of more benefit to the greatest number than the water areas, the latter should be redesigned, because of the changed conditions, so as to have smoother outlines and so as to enable the meadows, especially between Agassiz drive and Fen bridge, to be enlarged and to be made more suitable for ball games. Such nets as are needed to prevent balls from rolling into the water should be twine nets temporarily held up by movable poles set in permanent sockets. In some cases a low wire netting fence,

masked in shrubbery, might be admissible from the landscape viewpoint, along or near the water's edge, but this device should be used sparingly and only after careful study.

The bridle path presents a serious problem. The only justification for the space which the bridle path and its necessary slopes and borders consume in this comparatively narrow park and for the great additional cost which it involved for filling and for the continuing cost of its maintenance, is that of providing a soft loamy sand surface suitable for horseback riding, especially at a speed greater than a walk. To speed on horseback on a soft noiseless subsurface, in a park generally planted with an abundance of shrubbery and low branched trees and at times resorted to by great numbers of people on foot, especially little children, and by persons with babies in baby carriages, involves a great deal of danger. It would be too injurious to the landscape value of the park to remove all shrubbery which obstructs the view of equestrians. Our suggestions are that the narrow ribbon of shrubbery between the bridle path and the drive be replaced by turf in some places and by low plants such as hypericums, or by creepers, or by certain hardy low-growing perennials in others; that a strong wire netting fence, to be covered with vines and masked by shrubbery, be erected on varying lines according to local conditions, but usually far enough from the bridle path to leave room for an irregular row of shrubs of various sorts and of height depending upon the curvature so as not to obstruct the view ahead of equestrians. This concealed fence is needed to keep visitors, especially children, from crossing the bridle path to and from the shore walk except at certain regular crossings. The planting should be kept very low at and near the regular crossings and there should be warning signs. One purpose of the destroyed bridge at Huntington avenue

entrance was to provide a safe way for visitors on foot to get to and from the shore walk from the district of dense working population. When it can be afforded, several subways under both drive and bridle path should be constructed for safe access to the shore walk. This will become increasingly necessary as the number of automobiles increases.

A footbridge or two will soon be needed across the waterway to provide access to the new meadows.

As the original plan of a street along the west side of Tremont (or Parker Hill) entrance, to afford frontage for house lots has been abandoned, a considerable revision of the arrangements in that entrance seems called for. It is perhaps a fair question whether it would not be admissible to devote the central grass plot, now simply covered with trees, to a little folks' playground with a small shelter and toilet house, a wading pool, sand courts and simple apparatus. The shrubbery at the north end will prevent these artificial constructions from being too conspicuous from the Fenway.

The new straight, wide street from the Fenway to the marble buildings of the Harvard Medical School raises the question whether some more formal and more architectural bridge and plaza is desirable at the Fens. The present Fen bridge has the advantage of affording a perfectly convenient and graceful driving and walking connection between Audubon road and the Fenway. The diagonal drive is very desirable in order to induce drivers to cross from one to the other at this point rather than at Brookline avenue where the turn is more abrupt and less pleasing. On the whole, we advise that no change, such as that above suggested, be made at this point, at any rate not until the street leading to the Medical School shall have been built up with such high class buildings as to make such a formalizing of the

extended to the Riverway, between the Huntington avenue (then Tremont street) and the Brookline avenue bridges, and a very much larger one was installed to take the excess storm flows from the Town brook at Washington street railroad bridge, through Morss avenue to Leverett pond because that was the shortest and cheapest outlet. Another more or less polluted brook from Brookline empties into Jamaica pond. It would be desirable to have a sanitary engineer examine into the whole matter of proper disposal of storm water and street wash for the entire water shed tributary to the park waters, and to recommend such suitable measures for improving the sanitary conditions as the growth of population and financial ability to make improvements may make reasonable.

At the time Olmsted Park was designed it was assumed that there would be need of an additional street car line to the Tremont street (now Huntington avenue) line from the region west and southwest of Jamaica pond, and as the existing streets were all narrow and some too steep, a route was laid out and graded for a street railway along the park side of Pond avenue to Chestnut street at the expense of the town of Brookline. Plans were made for the extension of Pond avenue and this street railway southwesterly across private property to and along that part of Perkins street which is northwest of Jamaica pond. To avoid the necessity of filling out into Jamaica pond and heavy grading northwest of Ward's pond, for the continuation of the pleasure drive constructed at the expense of the town of Brookline from Washington street to Chestnut street, and which is much enjoyed by people driving out from Boston, it was planned to take Chestnut street south of Pond avenue, and Perkins street along Jamaica pond for a park drive and to provide a separate roadway for business traffic in continuation of Pond avenue. It was

intended to acquire title to the land needed for this extension of Pond avenue and for a future street railway, but to postpone construction until the time should have arrived for opening up the country west and southwest of Jamaica pond for a denser kind of settlement. It was not desired to hasten that kind of settlement there, but merely to make a wise provision for it, since it was regarded as inevitable in a few decades. Owing to the opposition of interested landowners, however, the project was abandoned. Since then one expensive dwelling has been erected in an obstructive position, and others have been erected so near the line as to materially increase the land damages which would have to be paid whether the proposed business traffic road and the street railway should be extended along Perkins street to Prince street or up the brook valley. A wise foresight in protecting this part of the park system from future injury by business traffic and street railway intrusion demands that this project be revived, not for immediate construction, but merely to the extent of securing the right of way before it is blocked by private improvements and an inadequate and unrelated street system.

Jamaica pond has continued to be used for skating and small boating and fishing, but the shelter house planned as headquarters for these sports has not been erected, presumably owing to lack of funds.

Carefully studied plans for bathing were abandoned and the shallow areas intended for children and beginners have been filled up, owing to the opposition, it is understood, of neighboring residents. It would certainly afford a delightful and healthful recreation for thousands of visitors, especially those who cannot leave the city in summer, to make the needed arrangements for bathing.

A small narrow necked bay in what was formerly the Pine Banks property is the cause of much incon-

venience to the many visitors who use the shore walk. It was originally planned to have an arched footbridge across the mouth of this bay. The idea was a good one and should be carried out in some form although not precisely as planned, because the water surface is now lower than it was then assumed it would be after the abandonment of the pumping of water from the pond. The idea of a boathouse at this little bay is not a good one. It was adopted as the basis of plans which are on file, at the instance of the boating licensee, to provide storage for boats in winter. The boats should be stored elsewhere than on the park as the unnecessary multiplication of buildings or undue enlargement of necessary ones on this park are undesirable.

A modest little landing was originally planned near the Parkman Memorial. Something of this sort is desirable.

In the original plan it was assumed that after the discontinuance of pumping from the pond the water would rise and remain pretty near what appeared by the natural beach formations to be the normal elevation. Along most of the margin of the pond this beach followed the base of a steep natural slope generally covered with trees. Experience shows that most visitors to such a park have a strong desire to walk along the water's edge. To gratify this desire the little beach was widened and a part of its width was macadamized for convenience of walking. The adjoining trees (and where there were none, trees to be planted) were expected to so shade and mask this beach and walk as to subordinate it in the landscape. The assumption that after pumping from the pond was discontinued the water would rise to its ancient elevation proved erroneous. This may be accounted for by the hypothesis that the gravelly shores and great banks of gravel, which separate this pond from Ward's pond, had during the ages become

silted up with minute particles of vegetable matter, or in other words had been choked with muck. During the many, many years in which water was pumped from the pond, lowering it several feet, sometimes in summer as much as eight feet or more, this puddling of vegetable matter or muck, being no longer kept covered with water, was removed by oxidation or washed from the coarse gravel shores down on to the under water slopes. Hence when the water rises, as it does every winter and spring, it quickly sweeps away into the gravel and runs into Ward's pond and the pools lower down in the form of springs. The original idea was that if this should occur the shores were to be puddled with clay, with a fresh coating of gravel to protect the clay, and that the large pump, adjoining Ward's pond, which was acquired with the land for the park, would be utilized to pump the leakage from Jamaica pond into Ward's pond back into the former. Subsequent administrations have failed to puddle the northeast shore of Jamaica pond, and, moreover, removed the pumping plant in spite of the fact that all arrangements had been made for supplying a large part of Franklin Park (especially the pool in the Wilderness and Scarboro pond) and the Arborway from this source, so as to save buying water from the city or Metropolitan Water Board. The conspicuous and ugly gravel bank thus left exposed between the shore walk and the water along the east and north shores was generally covered with topsoil and planted with trees and shrubs. This was doubtless the quickest and cheapest way to hide the unduly high gravel shore, but it should have been supplemented at least by a narrow protective beach of gravel. As it is the waves have eaten into the soft topsoil and have left an ugly little caving cliff of earth which, as the water recedes in summer, is very disagreeable. Besides, the present arrangement separates the shore walk too

completely and too continuously from the pond, so that visitors are balked from obtaining as much view as they want. Moreover, as the water recedes and the little beach below the bluff of topsoil becomes exposed, people, especially children, go to and along it greatly to the detriment of the appearance of the shrubbery. Where the slopes are gentler, as along the Perkins street shore, the exposed beach is wider, in fact about as wide in summer as would be needed for both macadam walk and gravel beach, so that the original walk higher up appears as a useless duplication. The questions which arise are: First, would it be desirable and reasonably economical to puddle the northeast shore? Second, would it be economical as a course of water supply to install a pumping plant and thus to provide a means for keeping Jamaica pond up to the original elevation and to which the shore walk is adapted? Third, would it be more practical to lower the overflow conduit so as to prevent the water ever rising more than a few inches or possibly a foot above what has proved to be the average summer elevation under existing conditions, and to buy water from the Metropolitan Water Board to keep the pond up to within a foot or so of the present average summer elevation, and then to lower the shore walk for considerable stretches, so it will have the effect of a beach from ten to fifteen feet wide, thus giving visitors adequate opportunity for walking along the water's edge, for feeding ducks and swans and so children can play with the water and (at places) with the sand of the beach? This would be accomplished cheaply by shoveling the original filling along certain shores into the margin of the pond, incidentally forming a gentle under water slope extending two yards or more from the water line as would be desirable as a safeguard against any child, who may fall or step into

the water, too quickly getting out beyond his or her depth. The question of a proper water supply for Scarboro pond is intimately connected with the second question, as is also that of water supply for watering the drives and plantations independently of the regular city water system. At present the underground reservoir constructed in Franklin Park is presumably out of commission and its cost wasted. If a new pumping plant is desirable, it is possible it might be economically run by electricity, considering that it would only need to be run a part of the year, effecting a saving in wages and in first cost. If a steam pumping plant is better it should not be installed in the park to the almost inevitable injury of its landscape, but should be on an outside lot, presumably next a railroad, or the navigable Charles River Basin, so coal can be delivered cheaply. The water now flowing into Willow pond appears to be a pure, if adequate, source of supply.

The great depth of Jamaica pond (at one point its bottom is below sea level) raises the question as to its safety for skating. Those ponds in the Boston parks that have been artificially constructed have been designed to have a uniform depth of eight feet and provision has been made for lowering the water to three feet depth in winter, so a crowd forming and breaking through the ice need not drown. The greater summer depth is necessary as a discouragement to the too extensive growth of water plants. It is worth considering whether it would not be worth while to grade the bottom of one (or more) of the shallower bays of Jamaica pond, presumably that at the north end, to a uniform depth of eight feet or more and to lower the water surface in winter so it would leave a depth of only three feet in that bay, roping it off temporarily from the rest of the pond when the ice is not strong enough to bear a

dense crowd elsewhere on the pond. Thus the number of days' skating could be considerably increased with entire safety.

Arborway.— In laying out this parkway the policy was followed of securing wherever practicable a suitable setback for buildings on the adjoining private property. The same holds true to a greater or less degree in other cases of parkways and border streets. It may be stated once for all, however, that this is an important matter and should be comprehensively looked into and the idea should be carried out in many places where it has not been. Funds should be obtained for the purchase of this and other desirable easements and restrictions on property adjoining parks and parkways and, if needed, a law should be passed authorizing such restrictions to be acquired by condemnation.

In the original plans for the Arborway the planting, except where were widenings of the planting spaces, or walls to be covered or other special conditions, was intended to be limited to trees and grass, as in Commonwealth avenue. The narrow planting strips have been since planted, in general, with continuous shrubbery, without clipped turf. From the point of view of visitors passing through the Arborway in vehicles the effect has been good, on the whole, although the bare cultivated earth in front of and amongst the shrubs is distressing to the eye. This kind of planting has differentiated the Arborway from the more ordinary type of wide parkway, such as Commonwealth avenue, and has afforded an attractive foreground of varied foliage and periodical bloom. It must be recognized, however, that this treatment, in which there is a strong expression of wildness and rusticity, is of questionable appropriateness where the constructional lines of the parkway are formal to the extent of being parallel horizontally and vertically and where the planting strips

are so narrow as is the case from Pond street to Centre street, and from South street to Forest Hills street, and it will be unquestionably inappropriate when the parkway frontage is fully occupied by apartment houses and residences of a city type. Therefore the policy should be to gradually formalize the style of maintenance of these planting strips as the character of adjoining private improvements becomes more costly and more citified. Thus, to begin with, the throwing of street sweepings upon the planting strips should be discontinued and the excessive overhanging of shrubs upon the drives and walks should be reduced by cutting out some shrubs and moving others or substituting smaller growing sorts. After this, neat clipped grass borders should be introduced in one part or another, according as the character of the neighborhood becomes more formal. On the other hand the stiffness and nakedness of the wall along the Arboretum frontage should be relieved by vines to a greater extent and the horticultural appearance of the steep hillside of orchard like thorn trees should be relieved by additional and more crowded woodland planting.

Arnold Arboretum.— The planting of this park is not in charge of the Park Department, yet it forms a very attractive feature of the park system. The Arboretum was not intended for a popular resort but for a somewhat limited class of appreciative visitors. Hence the drives and walks were purposely made much narrower than they were in the strictly public parks. At the time the Arboretum was designed no consideration was given to the extension of the park system beyond it. Later the West Roxbury Parkway, extending from the Arboretum to Stony Brook Reservation, was planned and the land for it taken, but it has remained for the most part unimproved. There ought to be a parkway branching from it and running through Brookline to the Charles River

Reservation to connect that reservation and those north of it with the park system and the reservations south of the city. In any case the West Roxbury Parkway, when improved, will become an important link in the great system of pleasure routes of Boston and vicinity. The drives in the Arboretum, as stated above, are narrow. For this and other reasons automobiles are excluded from them. The problem of properly connecting West Roxbury Parkway with the Arborway, while not a pressing immediate one, is certainly a very important one. It would be no more than ordinarily prudent to study this matter to the extent of determining upon a route for the connecting parkway and then securing the needed land. It is quite likely that the best scheme would be to widen Centre street sufficiently to provide for two roadways, one for business traffic and the other for pleasure traffic and for an electric street railway between the two, with space for irregular slopes between. It is true that the present profile is not an encouraging one and that the grading and land damages would be costly. On the other hand, to construct a wide automobile drive down through the charming valley in the Arboretum would be so damaging to its scenery that Harvard University could not fairly be criticised for declining to permit such a sacrifice. The extensive district of now mostly wild land west of the Arboretum will certainly need an electric railway, and Centre street ought therefore to be widened some day. If so, it would be far more economical to plan the widening now and to secure the needed land before further private improvements make such a widening as ought to be made exorbitantly expensive or practically impossible.

East of the Arboretum there is flat low land belonging to Harvard University, which is not very suitable for tenement houses but could easily be made useful for a

ball field and playground. It would be wise to secure some or all of this land while it can be bought cheaply. It is true that the large problem of a proper equipment and distribution of ball fields and playgrounds ought to be studied broadly and it may be that other locations would be useful to a far larger number of young people. Still, the advantages of this location seem sufficient to demand serious consideration.

Franklin Park.— This park is one of the most important municipal parks in the country, both with respect to size and cost and in the character of its landscape beauty, yet to the student of municipal affairs it seems surprising and regrettable that it is not more used. It is probable that for most of the population the enjoyment of scenery is in a more or less embryonic state, just as is their enjoyment of symphony concerts or works of fine art. They must be appealed to by the stronger, simpler and more easily understood compositions. Thus the panoramic views from the top of a high, bare hill or the extensive and striking views over the harbor from Marine Park are more easily appreciated by the majority than the smaller scenes in Ellicottdale and the Playstead in Franklin Park. It is also true that the majority will patronize more artificial amusement resorts in which something is "going on" or in which there is something to do. In the main that sort of amusement must be left to the commercial purveyors of amusements, yet it has been found possible to provide for certain entertaining features in large public parks without undue sacrifice of their principal object, which is that of providing beautiful scenery. It is in accordance with the original plan to have ornamental water fowl on Scarborough pond. It was also intended to have deer on the Blue Hill avenue and Seaver street corner of the park, and a collection of hardy wild animals and birds in Long Crouch Woods, and trained animals, such as driv-

ing goats, riding donkeys and ponies and even camels in the Little Folks' Fair. A loop track for pony riding, fenced in to afford a sense of safety from runaways, was indicated on the plan. Presumably for lack of funds and of sufficient encouragement these popular features have never been carried out. The Music Court and The Greeting were other features planned for popular attractions which have never been constructed. The Refectory was planned and built on a scale adequate for many people to enjoy ice cream, soda water and other light refreshments, but has not been a success because it was run on a commercial basis, instead of solely for the benefit of visitors to the park. There ought to be popular music there, with refreshments at the lowest prices but of attractive quality, supplied directly by the Park Commission. It was distinctly the intention of the original designer that the large part of the park northeast of Glen lane should be supplied with various means of popular recreation which could reasonably fit in with the local conditions and sound park policy, but with the confident expectation that if such things were fully provided in this amusement section of the park they could be and would be kept out of the rest of the park, which was carefully distinguished on the plan as to style of development and maintenance by being called the Country Park.

Plans were devised last year for some of these popular means of recreation in the Seaver street borders of the park. Although differing in detail from the original plan they are quite in accord with its essential purposes. One of the principal differences consists in the abandonment of the wide central drive and the bridle path and bicycle path ideas in The Greeting, a moderate narrowing of the formal treatment and the providing of sites for zoological buildings on each side. There is no radical objection to such buildings in this location, from the

point of view of the original design, provided they are kept low and are made inconspicuous by their color and material and by vines and other planting. There is, however, a great objection to burdening the already overburdened annual maintenance fund with the disproportionately great cost of keeping tropical and sub-tropical animals and the buildings and grounds of a zoological garden. The original idea, as has been said, was to confine the collection to strictly hardy animals requiring comparatively simple and cheap inclosures and shelters and cheap food and care. It would certainly be prudent to go slowly in such a case, unless, as was originally intended, a zoological society with ample means will undertake the care of the zoological collection and its buildings and grounds.

At the time the park was laid out, automobiles had not been developed. They are so objectionable in a great popular park that they have not yet been allowed in Franklin Park, nor, for reasons already stated, in the Arboretum. They are so much used for pleasure that it seems advisable to admit them to Franklin Park with reasonable restrictions. They might be gradually or experimentally admitted by a system of special licenses. At some places it may be necessary to provide bridges or subways by which people on foot may safely cross the line of automobile and carriage traffic. At other places it may be sufficient to restrict the foot crossing to certain points and to provide a park guard or keeper during busy hours at each important crossing.

In the original plan a brook was shown starting at a point east of Schoolmaster Hill at a spring, partly supplied by subsoil drains in The Playstead and other places that were originally wet, and this brook as also the pools in the low part of Nazingdale were to be supplied in dry weather from the underground reservoir in the wilderness. This brook in turn was to supply

Scarboro pond, the brook and pools involved having walks also. With the subsequent introduction of golf, these features, the construction of which had not been undertaken owing to lack of funds for the purpose, became decidedly undesirable. In fact, no distinct invitation, such as walks afford, is offered to visitors to go to Scarboro pond from Abbotswood and its vicinity. The broad meadow landscape certainly is a more valuable feature in the park, yet it is questionable whether the time will not come when, owing to the increasing use of the park, golf must be discontinued, at first during busy times and later entirely, for the greater good of the greater number. The foot traffic to and from Scarboro pond may then become so great as to require a walk, and possibly then one or both the pools may be desirable, not because they are better landscape features than the simple meadow, but because they would be more interesting to most visitors, especially if made in the form of shallow wading pools.

One of the most important features of the original plan was the recognition of the view from the Overlook to the Great Blue Hill. No tree planting should ever be permitted which would block it. The end of the Overlook from which this view is obtained has been found to be too sunny. Suitable trees of various sorts and of moderate growth might well be planted irregularly there, but not nearer the parapet than six feet. No doubt blasting would have to be resorted to to get room for the required bed of topsoil under the walk paving.

The terraces on Schoolmaster Hill were originally provided with stone piers, beams and rafters covered with vines, forming attractive pergolas. For some unknown reason these pergolas were subsequently removed. They were good and can easily be restored. The idea was that the various compartments were to be provided with simple tables and benches and waste

boxes and that they were to be used under proper supervision by family and other picnic parties.

It was the intention to have a competent organizer employed, not only to bring visitors to the park by means of articles in the papers, and by lectures to church and other societies with lantern slides and folders, photographs, flowers and other suitable means of advertising, but also by organizing picnic parties and other parties to go to the park, and by helping them in every way to have a good time when they get there. The idea was only carried out to the extent of employing a supervisor of play on The Playstead. Such a man would call people's attention to the season of flowering of showy or interesting shrubs, or the coming of attractive birds. He might even arrange for the introduction of showy birds such as the cardinal bird, scarlet tanager, Baltimore oriole and others. He could advertise skating or sleighing. He could organize tennis competitions. He could teach the children new games, get up tobogganing parties, kodak parties, nature study parties and so on. A clever organizer and entertainer would convey a good deal of interesting information mixed with friendly conversation in a human and natural way instead of by the repellent "patter" of the ordinary guide. In fact all the guides on the park (who should not be called police nor be police in the ordinary sense) should, without offensive obtrusiveness, call the attention of visitors to interesting things in the park, the region of chipmunks and squirrels, the different localities where pretty birds are to be found, the turtles, the flowering dogwoods or thorns, and so on. No doubt many a visitor leaves the park without having seen Scarboro pond or the view from Hagborn Hill or the swans or the tennis playing. Although disagreeable in themselves, more guide boards and tree and shrub labels would help visitors to get more satisfaction from a visit to the park.

Sigourney street should be extended substantially as originally planned in order to complete a proper traffic boundary along the northwest side of the park.

The ride originally planned to run through the southwest and southeast borders of the park should be constructed, and it should be one of the duties of the suggested social organizer to increase the amount of horseback riding. There seems to be no good reason why the ride circuit should not be completed in the space between Glen lane and the circuit drive.

The increased use of the entrance at Blue Hill avenue and Columbia road makes some enlargement and modification of the facilities there desirable. It would be well to consider an open shelter at the street car stopping place and an increase of the tree shaded macadam area there and down to the circuit drive, with more or less continuous benches along its edges. A simple but spacious public toilet house may soon be needed, either in connection with the car shelter or in one of the nearby zoological buildings. The circular plot at the southeast end of The Greeting should be squared, so far as its northwest half is concerned, and a wide walk laid out to follow the entrance drive. The drive entrance southeast of this circle does not appear to be much needed, and it might be well to plant across it, having one walk only to connect with Blue Hill avenue at that point. The drives southwest and northeast of the circular plot might be narrowed to twenty-five feet or thirty feet, so as to diminish the foot crossing, and the rest of the circular driveway might be retained as a place in which to leave carriages and automobiles while their occupants visit the zoological collection or the Refectory.

Constantly increasing numbers of people cross the circuit drive west of the Refectory. It is a dangerous crossing because of the excessive amount of shrubbery

there. If a fence is needed, parallel with the drive, it should be a low, substantial steel picket fence, covered with vines and with a few low shrubs only. It may be desirable in time to raise a mound southwest of the circuit drive and walk, and to carry the foot traffic over both drive and walk by a bridge completely fencing both, so as to stop crossing at grade. At present many people walk in the entrance drive. This is partly because the adjoining walk is not wide enough and smooth enough, and partly because it is partially concealed and encroached upon by shrubs, and partly because it ends abruptly at the circle. These objections should be remedied and a park guard placed there to regulate the foot traffic. Also there appears to be need of another wide walk along the northwest side of the entrance drive from The Greeting to the circuit drive. Much of the ground north and northeast of Abbotswood is in a worn-out and ugly condition, owing to lack of good soil and to the proximity of ledge. Wherever possible, two feet depth of topsoil should be added. Where this cannot be done without injury to trees, blasting should be done. There are other places in the park needing similar treatment, but this locality is the most conspicuously in need of immediate attention.

The wide approach street suggested on the original plan to connect with Boylston station on the Providence Railroad not having been constructed, the wide park entrance at Sigourney street might well be reduced to ordinary dimensions. The drive entrance from Sigourney street a little further south has proved unnecessary and might well be reduced to a single walk.

The service buildings and yards for the park having been developed at the south end of the park, the site proposed for the Steading, near Sigourney street, has remained unimproved. It might be well to construct here, and in the more open land northeast of it, a play-

ground for little children, as it would be convenient for the growing population of the valley northwest of the park. Basket ball, tether ball, handball (with a wall), a wading pool, sand courts, inclosed lawn for babies, scups, swings, teeter boards, spring boards, slides, ladders, giant's strides, hand teeter bars, circular running beams and a merry-go-round (without music) are some of the appliances customary. Similar apparatus was intended to be installed in the Little Folks' Fair, but it might be better in the section marked Deer Park on the original plan, as this would be handier for the local population east of the park and further from the suggested Sigourney Playground.

It was a particular feature of the original plan to close the Country Park portion of Franklin Park at night, that is, all the part of the park southwest of Glen lane. The reasons were that it would not only be unreasonably expensive to thoroughly light and police so large an area of rolling land, much of which is covered with trees and shrubbery, but also because the lamp-posts would be offensively out of keeping with the designed character of the landscape. With this end in view a wall was built along much of Glen lane and the other boundaries of Country Park and it was intended to continue it along the rest of the boundaries, and gates were planned and some of them built. Some of these gates have been since removed for no apparently adequate reason. It should be carefully considered whether the idea of closing the Country Park at night and of thoroughly lighting and policing at night the part northeast of Glen lane should not now be put in practice.

The concourse on Scarboro Hill was designed and built to enable visitors in carriages and on foot to enjoy the beautiful views of which the most important is that of Great Blue Hill. The latter is only visible, however, in winter when the trees are leafless, no one having had

the courage to cut down the few obstructing trees because they are large. The view is worth more than the trees of course or the concourse would never have been built. Unfortunately many additional trees have been planted on what was open land below the concourse. These should be removed so far as they already, or will hereafter, unduly obstruct the views. The concourse wall was intended to be covered with vines and to be further masked by shrubbery not high enough to interfere with the view. There would be little objection to adding a few trees in the sidewalk of the concourse to afford shade, providing they are trimmed up high to leave the view open for people in carriages.

The Dairy was intended partly as a headquarters for the sheep which it was designed to herd on the broad meadows of the Country Park, both to keep the grass short in a rustic style and for the sake of their interest and picturesque effect, but mainly to provide a small restaurant where fresh dairy products could be served. This might be combined with the shepherd's residence. The building was intended to closely resemble a typical New England farmhouse. The idea was carried out, although in a too sophisticated manner, in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, and is an attractive feature of the park. It was hoped that many invalids or convalescents would be induced by their physicians to drive or walk to this dairy lunch place for a bowl of bread and milk, while delicate babies could have milk warm from the cow. Incidentally there was to be a public toilet there for that end of the park.

The district named Heathfield, on the original plan, was intended to present an example of the very pretty effect often seen in abandoned pastures, of wild flowers and low bushes and creepers, prostrate juniper, heath, calluna, sweet fern, sheep laurel, everlasting, gentian, daisies, and the like, with stonecrop and rock plants on

the ledges. Rock Milton commands a fine view of the Milton Hills, but few go there owing to the absence of the intended path and a sign. The base of this cliff plunges into the water of Scarboro pond, but more of the detritus at the base should be removed to increase the bold effect. The intended path and viewpoint summer house should be executed on Rock Morton. Some paths on Juniper Hill would tend to make that characteristic field of red cedars more resorted to. Mountain laurel is attractive and it has been appropriately introduced into the Wilderness at one place, but the group there is too much of an obvious gardener's effort, the group being solely laurel and the plants too uniformly spaced and the ground cultivated like a garden bed. In such a case it is not so important that the plants should be individually fine specimens as it is that they should appear to have become naturally established there.

Where trees have been planted in the more open parts of the park, the work has been well done and the selection of sorts is admirable. The predominating use of the native oaks is particularly to be commended as they are well adapted to the poor soil and harmonize with the original woods and tend to differentiate this park in the right direction from most of the other parks of the country where excessive use has been made of poplars, soft and sugar maples, and a few other common trees. The cultivation of the whole surface among these trees is undoubtedly the best way to secure a rapid and healthy growth. The time has arrived, however, when it is proper to discontinue this cultivation, which produces a very artificial and ugly appearance, and to smooth the ground, and to plant shade-enduring undergrowth where it is not intended visitors should go, or grass and woodland flowers where people may stroll. In many cases these plantations end on a gently curving

line and are faced down with what appears to be a nearly uniform row of small growing trees. The effect is too artificial. The margins should be broken into by bays of turf and a few scattering trees should be added far out on the meadows. At the same time, the small growing trees should be more crowded in some places than others and the view under them should be stopped in some places by shade-enduring shrubs of various sorts and woodland flowers such as asters, goldenrods, violets, ferns and so on. In general, the trees in these plantations are too uniformly spaced and too much like a succession of individual wide-branched specimens to look as natural as they should. There should be more semblance of accident and unexpected combinations. For instance, an occasional gray birch growing many stems from one root with some catbriar clambering on it might appear on the edge of a grove next a big boulder, but rarely if at all elsewhere on the park, or in a low place a crowded extensive belt of *ilex glabra*, *clethra*, elderberry and tall goldenrod and asters might border a grove. There is opportunity for endless invention and contrivance to add effects of naturalness and variety and adaptation to local conditions, not only in this park but in others where naturalistic landscape is attempted. It would be well to constantly aim to please the artist. Few artists are attracted to well developed, round headed, healthy trees, almost evenly spaced, as appealing subjects for a picture. What most pleases the horticulturist seldom suits the artist. He either looks for large effects of color or mass, with prevailing harmony but some limited contrast of form or color or light or shade, or else he looks for picturesque, small local effects, with some deep shadow or a high light, or a dash of brilliant color, or a crooked gnarled trunk, or a mossy hole and fern-covered decaying stump. The arboricultural work done of late years on the parks

cannot be too highly praised. It is perhaps the best in the country, considering the limitations, but the artistic side of park planting has not been quite what it should be.

There is a tendency, not perhaps so marked in the Boston parks as in some others, to use pretty much the same selection of trees and shrubs for the predominating effects in one park of the system as in another. This comes from excessive attention to the arboricultural and economical side of the business of planting and too little to the artistic side. One man will perhaps be struck by the advantages of the sycamore and will plant it on hill parks, on parkways, on meadow parks, on city squares, and on seashore grounds indiscriminatingly. Another man will remember that he has seen it in nature mostly along rivers or brooks and will reserve it, like willows and river birch, for river parks or for low moist places. Another man, finding that a particular kind of tree has become badly infested with worms, will refuse to use it under any circumstances even where it would be the most appropriate tree to use, as, for instance, the American elm on a college campus. One may properly be cautious in using such trees, yet the risk of loss or the expense of preserving healthy growth may be fully justifiable in some cases. So, too, in the matter of hardiness. To utterly refuse to use a certain kind of tree because it is not hardy during a long life or under ordinary conditions may debar one from securing desirable effects which, even if they are not permanent, may be well worth having while they do last. If it is a question of a formal row of trees intended to be permanent, hardiness is very important, but in an irregular mixed plantation it may not be objectionable but on the contrary an advantage to use some trees that may be killed by some extra hard winter or some unusually late frost, because it

may accomplish a needed thinning naturally which the powers that be might neglect or refuse to do with the axe used on good live trees.

In Franklin Park, the Overlook Shelter and the Ellicottdale Field House are examples of important buildings successfully harmonized with the park landscape. The Refectory near Blue Hill avenue, designed by different architects, on the other hand, is offensively self-assertive and inharmonious with the landscape. This failure in design appears to be mainly due to a wrong choice of material, but is partly due to lack of attention to the training of vines over it. The building would have been far more in harmony with its surroundings if it had been built with outer walls of colored seam-faced puddingstone, such as could have been obtained in the quarry on the park, instead of pale bright yellow brick. If it could be tinted successfully, as regards sticking permanently, with a cement wash with some agreeable shade of warm brown and then carefully covered with vines, the park landscape would be benefited, even though the architecture of the building might be somewhat suppressed. This building was located in so prominent a place for the express purpose of affording to its patrons enjoyable views. It was expected to subdue the building by the unusually extensive and high vine-clad pergola and by a few tall trunked trees which would permit views under their foliage, and the great rock-faced terrace was to be covered with vines and masked by bushes. As it is, the vines are not as abundant as they should have become in the years that have passed since they were planted, and the hillside is densely planted with tall growing trees. Many of these trees should be removed and replaced by small growing sorts which will never obstruct the view.

Franklin Field.—The wisdom of acquiring this play-

field park, both as a much needed provision for field sports and as a means of defending Franklin Park from excessive wear and tear and undesirable artificialization of the meadows of the Country Park portion, has been more and more demonstrated by its increasing use. It is evident that the time is not far distant when its rougher and more or less ledgy portion must be better utilized. With this in view, a careful study could advisably be made at this time for future grading, so the Park Superintendent will be enabled to take advantage of any suitable filling material that may be available in the neighborhood.

The quadrant shaped corner entrance has not been properly graded and there is need of a wall and other improvements there. The sidewalk along the northeast side should be graded as a wide promenade where benches may be placed, in the shade of trees, trimmed high, to permit of a view over the low playfield. The Blue Hill avenue frontage is in need of a better finish. An outdoor gymnasium, under proper supervision, would add materially to the usefulness of the Field. The increase in population of the vicinity will make a little folks' playfield desirable in time, and if carefully planned, some features of it could be executed at once. For instance, a wading pool would afford much pleasure without the expense of expert supervision.

Columbia Road.— Although unfortunately too narrow, in part, and, still worse, unduly crowded by buildings, owing to failure to secure a building limit line, this connection with the Strandway has apparently been a financial success, as it appears to have greatly increased the assessable value of property along and near it. It is deficient in nice finish and maintenance. The shrubbery, introduced in some places where there was room for it, is often too wild and untidy for the character of the surroundings. On the other hand, some build-

ings, with the consent of the owners, might well be covered with vines. Where possible, electric wires should be put under ground and the poles removed. The trolley and other necessary poles might, as a rule, or occasionally, for variety, be dressed with vines trained to a woven wire ribbon so as not to interfere unduly with painting or other needed access to the poles.

The Strandway.— This, by reason of its width and of the views over the harbor commanded by it, is one of the most important parkways of the many in the city and vicinity. It does not appear to be as much used as it should be. It should be lined with residences and moderate priced apartment houses. It may be possible, with the cooperation of some of the more important landowners, to secure suitable restrictions on neighboring land which would insure a better class of buildings along and near it than, in the absence of such restrictions, any landowner would dare to put up lest it should be depreciated in value by a much worse character of occupancy round about. The tall wild looking shrubbery, while desirable at present, can hardly be considered to be encouraging to adjoining landowners contemplating erecting a fairly good kind of building. A tidier and more gardenesque style of planting, on the other hand, would encourage better buildings. Some of the fences of yacht clubs need vines and ornamental shrubbery.

Marine Park.— The house at the land end of the pier is an unusually picturesque and interesting park building. It should be kept in better repair. Whenever funds can be obtained for the purpose the other buildings originally planned, between the Head House and the pier, should be added. It is particularly important to erect soon the originally planned, round three-story shelter at the outer end of the pier, as the effect of the pier is weak in design without it. The

absence of a row of trees between the drive and the shore walk of Pleasure bay was intentional, as it was thought the view from the drive would be more enjoyable if unobstructed, and that the openness would form a desirable contrast with the Strandway. The filling under the lawns was done with such dry sand and gravel, for reasons of economy, that neither the lawns nor the trees are as handsome nor as useful as they should be. The simplest remedy would be irrigation, but an extensive replacement of the loose subsoil with loamy clay would be more satisfactory. It was the original plan to connect Castle Island with the shore of Pleasure bay by a neck of land formed by filling. The pile bridge was to be merely a temporary connection to save for some years the large expense of filling. Whenever funds can be secured for it this neck should be filled and the drive extended to a loop on Castle Island. Many more pleasure vehicles would then appear on the Strandway and in Marine Park than can now be seen. If an embankment of gravel were raised on each side, the fine silt and mud now being removed from nearby channels and expensively transported to points well out at sea could be cheaply used for the main bulk of the filling.

North End Park.—The Copp's Hill terraces serve their purpose well, but present a somewhat shabby and ill-kept appearance. The stonework should be kept as it is, except that a change is required in the granite abutment which was built for a footbridge which was proposed to connect across Atlantic avenue with the pier and beach. The construction of the elevated railway made such a footbridge undesirable. The pavements of the terraces should be improved, more benches should be provided, also more shade on the upper terrace. The plantations of shrubbery are very difficult to maintain, partly because of the dust and smoke of

the city and partly because of partial shade, but mainly because of the wear and tear of children. The shrubberies are essential to preserve the charm of the place, and at the cost of artificializing them they must be more adequately protected by steel picket fences, supplemented by the supervision of a park guard capable of keeping the children out of the plantations by processes other than the usual police methods. The portion of the park between Atlantic avenue and the harbor line has, it is understood, been turned over to the playground authorities, and is a hideous waste of cinders, without a particle of foliage, and is thoroughly discreditable to the city. If a man of the right sort could be put in charge, it is probable that low growing or clipped trees, such as would not unduly obstruct the view from the terraces, and a border of shrubbery protected by steel picket fences and continuous rows of benches, could be maintained next the street wall, and possibly at the buildings, and vines, protected by strong wire guards, might perhaps be grown on the buildings. A bright-colored awning on steel poles to shade a few rows of seats between the proposed street border plantation and the beach, bright awnings on some of the windows of the buildings, flags on buildings and isolated poles, a bright awning shelter on the pier, gay colors on such parts of the buildings and piers as are adapted to such treatment, bright flowers in window boxes, removal of all the cinder surface, replacing part with bright brick paving in patterns which could be washed frequently, plenty of white sand on the beach, gaily painted drinking fountains, gay refreshment stands, electroliers, patterns of electric lights on the buildings and piers, are a few of the ways in which the gloomy depressing aspect of this valuable feature of the park system could be enlivened.

Wood Island Park.— There is a more or less marked

effect of shabbiness and neglect about this park which is perhaps unavoidable, owing to insufficient appropriations. The trees are as well looked after as possible, under the trying conditions, but the shrubberies, which ought to do more even than trees to add the element of local charm to such a park, are gradually deteriorating, while vines are almost conspicuously absent from buildings, fences and bridges. It is, of course, wise, if both trees and shrubs cannot be maintained with the available funds, to plant and preserve trees and let shrubs go, as the latter can be grown whenever desired in a fraction of the time it takes to grow good sized trees. It is to be hoped, however, that shrubs can be grown near the bath house, athletic field fence and railroad fence, and especially on the slopes at the bridges, and that vines can be trained on the fences and bridges. The steep slope at the north ball field was intended to be covered with vines, protected at top and bottom by steel picket fences if necessary. Some such improvement now seems called for.

The hard gravel ballground was formed, for economy, by a shallow fill on salt marsh and a tide valve was relied upon to keep salt water out of the subsoil and storm drains. Settlements have occurred so that the ground needs resurfacing. Cinders should not be used because they are very gloomy and depressing in effect, and are liable to leave a black scar in the skin of anyone having a severe fall upon them. Salt on the surface of this ground indicates that the drain valve is not working properly. No sea valve will work perfectly without due attention, but it is possible that the pattern could be improved. A light metal ball resting on an upturned pipe, ground to fit, is perhaps the best form, but the outlet chamber toward the sea must be protected with two or three fine mesh screens which can easily be successively lifted out and cleaned.

The field house underpinning is out of plumb and the paving of the veranda is irregular and the building as a whole appears to be shabby and neglected. An addition to the original building is in a different and inharmonious style, leading to the inference that a different or no architect was employed. In a park department, more than in most other branches of city government, the highest regard should be paid to art, and the plea of saving the architect's commission, if such was the case here and in other instances, should not have a moment's consideration. Harmony, in the case of additions, is of such paramount importance that it should be the rule that additions should be designed by the architect of the original building and in harmony with it. As it is, vines should cover the incongruous addition to this building.

Several walks appear to be needed to properly accommodate routes of foot travel which are indicated by short-cut paths. The new walks need not always follow the precise lines of the short cuts, but should be on good curves and grades even if some trees have to be cut or moved. One or two of these walks will consist largely of flights of steps. The steps should be in a succession of short flights with landings, and the latter, if short, should be so dimensioned that the average person will not start up each flight with the same foot with which he started the previous flight. Wire netting fences, concealed with vines and masked by bushes, with sometimes a few boulders next the steps, are often needed to keep people to the steps. With rare exceptions such flights of steps should in no part rise above the general surface of the adjoining ground. In some cases people so persistently walk or run down the slope instead of the steps as to warrant the introduction of a slightly roughened, hard paved walk with a very steep grade even up to 25 or 30 per cent. A walk of any such

steepness should, however, never be built without comfortable flights of steps nearby.

If the projected filling of the harbor in front of Wood Island Park is executed, it may become desirable to inclose a large basin of salt water in front of the park, sufficiently below high water mark to insure proper drainage of the low ground, and to control the outlet and inlet, so as to avoid the inconvenience of the long, exposed beach, and wire screens should be used to keep out the floating and often decaying refuse inseparable from a confined harbor. If undue pollution occurs, it may even be necessary to turn this basin into fresh water for safety to bathers. A lock should be provided for small boats.

In any case a livery boathouse and a club boathouse should be located at convenient points on the shore of Wood Island Park, and channels should be dredged to them as soon as the patronage will warrant them and as soon as money can be obtained for the purpose.

A larger and better field house and bath house will no doubt be required in time. The present one was assumed to be somewhat temporary in character, as were many of the buildings in other parks, pending the development of the sports they were meant to accommodate as well as because of inadequate funds.

Charlesbank.—The approaches to the new Charles River Dam at the north end of this park call for some revision of the walks and grades. Possibly walls and steps are needed. The promenade or walk along the sea wall was pitched away from the wall to prevent the mud of the binding clay used in the macadman paving from washing over and disfiguring the wall. The effect is not agreeable. It would be well, if funds are available after accomplishing more important matters, to pave this walk with some hard material, with a slope of say a quarter inch to a foot toward the wall instead of from it. A hard, good-colored brick paving would

perhaps be the most picturesque, although cement concrete would be smoother and more comfortable under foot. But as ordinarily laid it is not as agreeable in color or texture of surface as good brick. This defect can be largely overcome by the use of green or brown or reddish mineral coloring matter, such as is used in mortar, and by adding a colored stone in small bits or pebbles and rubbing off the cement somewhat before it set. In no case should lampblack be used, as it is gloomy and displeasing. The contemplated paving of this walk and the fact that the street sidewalk is already brick paved, but with a poor grade and colored brick, raises the question whether the few remaining walks should not also be paved to match. No doubt, considering the small width of this park and the artificiality of its situation and neighborhood, it would be wise to do so when money can be spared after more important improvements elsewhere have been accomplished. The Catholic Club Boathouse is a very ugly crude affair and should be removed or rebuilt in harmony with the other buildings.

Park Guards.—Those who have had the management of parks at heart have gradually become convinced that the public should be guided and controlled in the use of them by a set of guards or keepers entirely distinct from and trained entirely differently from the city police. They should be organized directly by the park superintendent and should be appointed and discharged by him for insubordination, laziness, incompetence and the like, just as foremen and common laborers are, or should be, if an efficient and economical organization is to be maintained. The city police should have the right and duty to watch over the parks to protect property and persons and to make arrests for violation of law just as they do over similarly extensive private grounds, but they cannot be expected, nor can the ordinary law courts be expected or relied upon to enforce what to them may

seem the petty and trivial rules and regulations of park commissions. On the contrary, there should be a force of special park guards and a special park magistrate's court to handle infractions of park rules. The conditions of park use are such that the number, character and location of park guards must necessarily vary enormously if the desired results are to be obtained. The number of park guards or keepers must be adjusted to the seasons and occasions when visitors in the parks are numerous. The park guards who more particularly regulate traffic on the drives or at gates, or those for buildings or for boating or skating, may differ in character and training from those who are to protect turf, shrubs and flowers from excessive wear or injury. It must be made easy for the superintendent, or head keeper, to shift a few or many park guards from point to point in a large park, or from park to park, or even to distant parts of the city at short notice. For economy it is advisable to recruit the guard force partly from the regular park foremen, assistant foremen, gardeners, assistant gardeners, clerks, timekeepers and other employees, and a large reserve force can be made up of citizens whose occupations are such that they can undertake this duty during a portion of the year, or on occasions throughout the year, or during part of each day during the period when parks are most visited. Park guards should be in a modest, inconspicuous yet distinctive uniform in which they can work at other things when there is little need of devoting all their time to watching and guiding visitors. Park guards should be well educated and have good manners and good address. They should be cautious in arresting or resorting to force, yet they must be prepared to do so if need be. Hence they must be physically fit and must keep in training. They must have bicycles or motor cycles and must report frequently at telephones placed at frequent intervals or even at

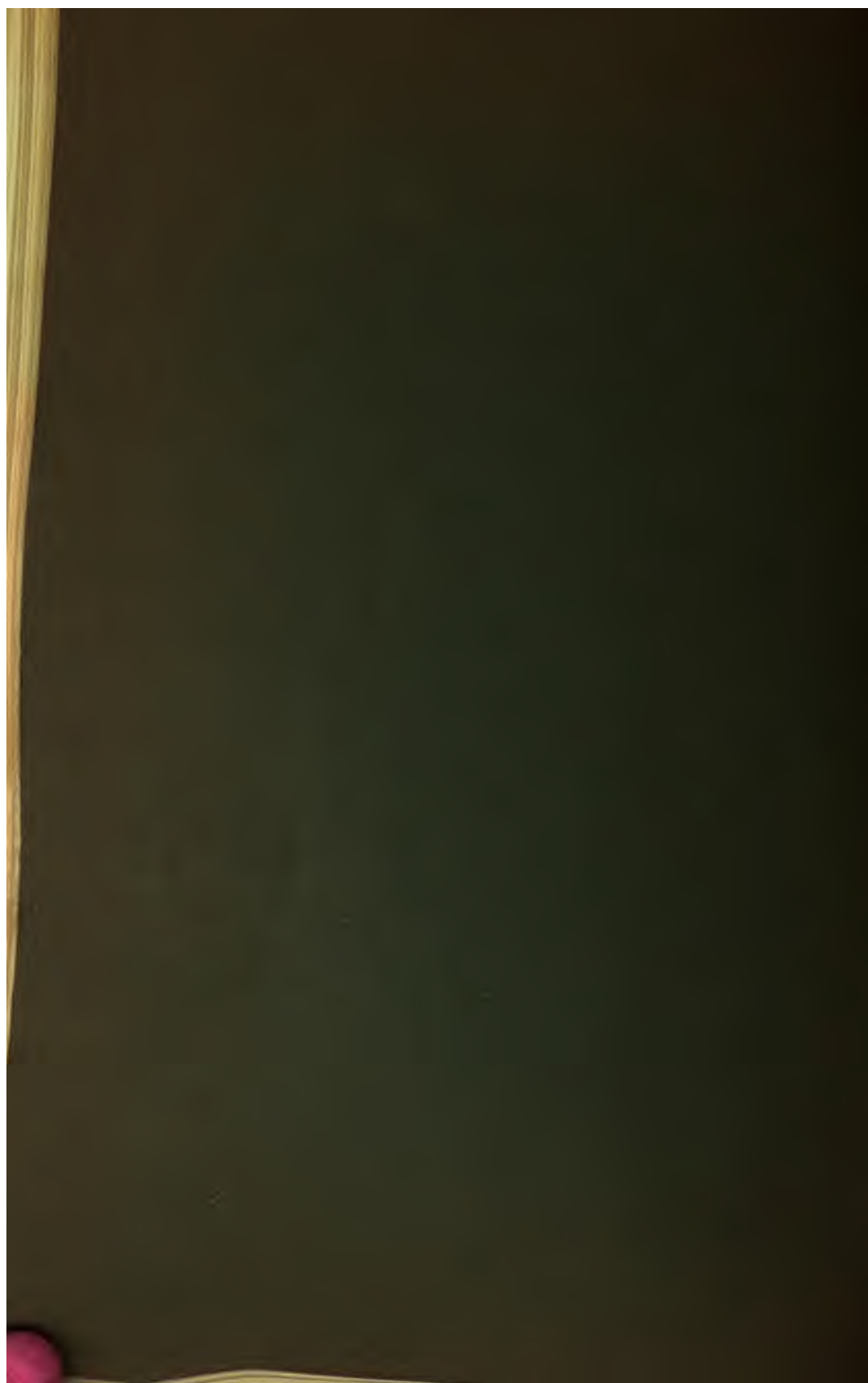
portable telephones, so they can keep in touch with headquarters or secure help quickly when need be. Activity is one of the essential requirements. When they find it necessary to arrest a visitor for refusal to obey park rules, the case should be promptly examined and the fine inflicted (if warranted) with as little inconvenience and loss of time to the offender as possible. The effort should be to impress each offender with the certainty that the park rules will be enforced, rather than with the severity of the penalty, and all care should be taken to avoid whatever is humiliating and physically disagreeable to the obstinate or foolish victim and especially anything resembling jail or criminal appliances and customs, except in actually criminal cases. This subject is of vital importance to the park system and should be carefully looked into. If favorable action cannot be secured at this time, it should be sought hereafter at intervals of a few years, or when any change of personnel in the city government offers a better chance of success.

Respectfully submitted,

OLMSTED BROTHERS.







City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

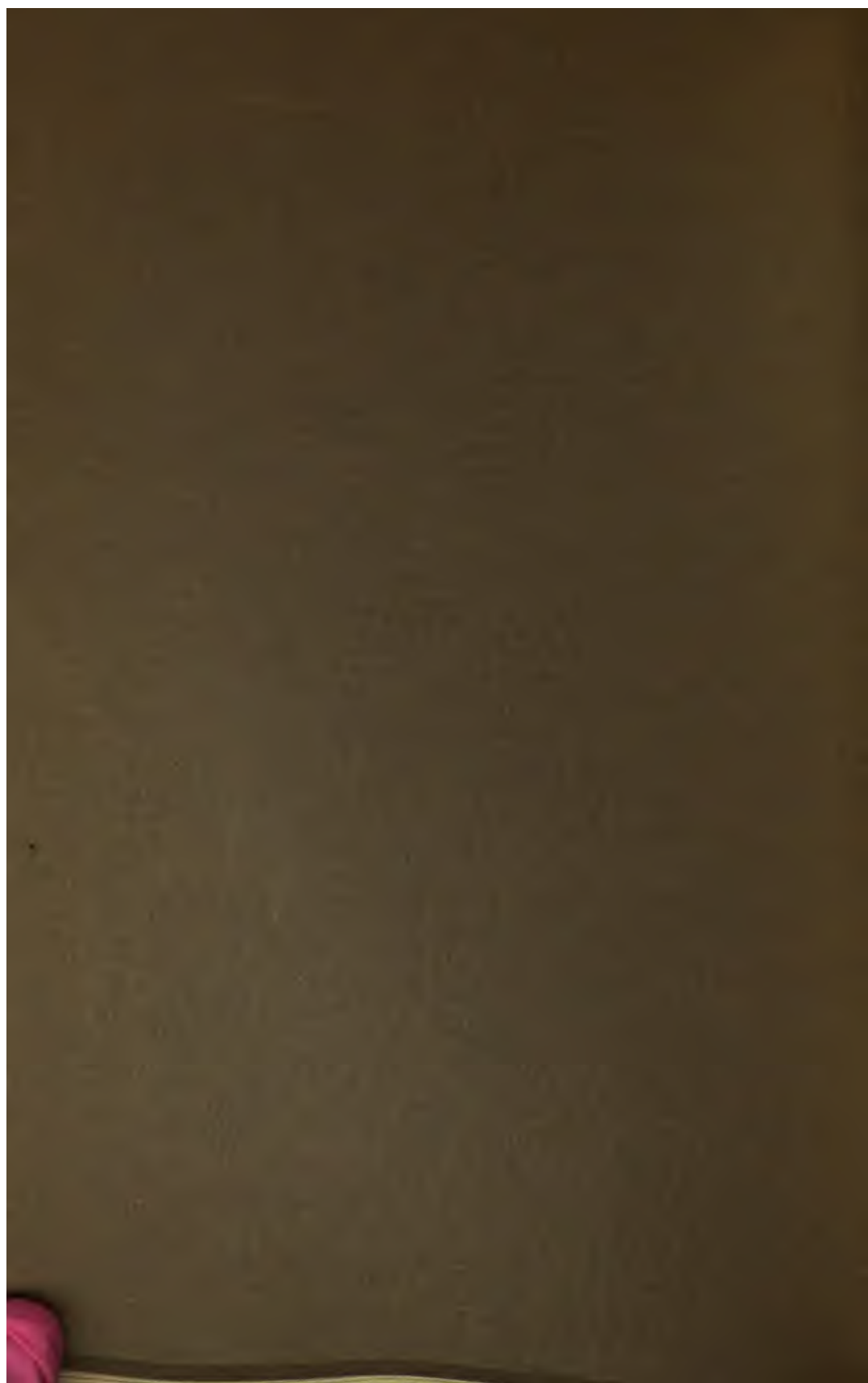
FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1912



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1912



City of Boston
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,— The Board of Park Commissioners herewith presents its annual report for the year 1911-1912.

Besides the annual maintenance work of the parks, playgrounds, woodlands and roads, much new construction has made this an unusually busy year for the Park Department. The John Winthrop Playground has been bought. Sites have been selected for several new playgrounds; other playgrounds, such as the Columbus Avenue, the Strandway and the William Eustis Playgrounds have been fenced, planted and finished; a locker building has been built at the Strandway playground; a contract has been made for one at Forest Hills Playground; drawings have been made for a shelter building at Jamaica Pond and for improvements at the Copp's Hill Terraces; for a locker building and children's playground at Medford street, below Charlestown Heights. A new brick bath house has been contracted for at Dewey Beach. Tennis courts have been built at Franklin Field and much grading done there. The filling has continued slowly at Orient Heights. Four acres are graded and furnish ball fields and a contract now made will furnish another acre. A great deal of

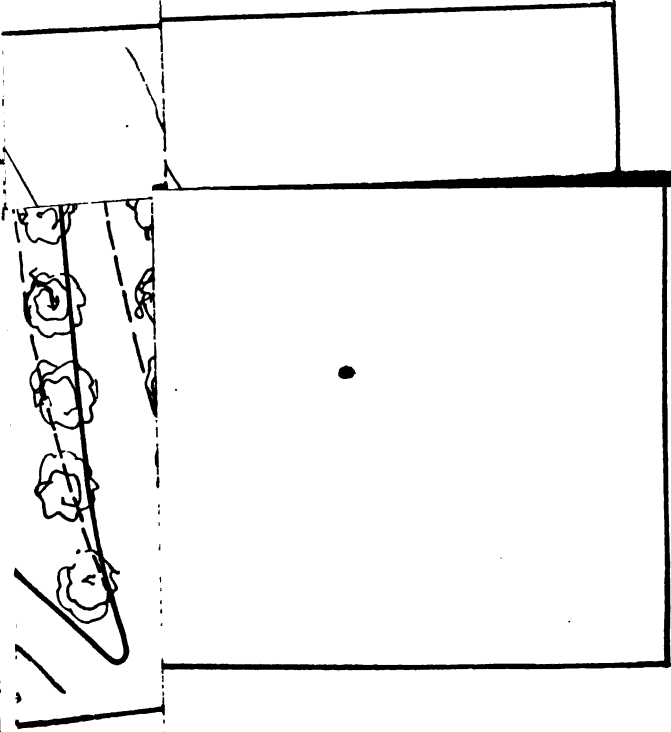
tree planting had been done, much of it during the coldest winter weather. Plans have been made for the street to connect Jersey street with the neighborhood of the Art Museum, and the work is to be done with filling from the Boylston Street Subway. The Fens Playground has also been extended with earth from cellar excavations and it is hoped that we can add many acres shortly to the Strandway Playground by excavation from the Dorchester Subway. Much other construction work is enumerated in the report of our superintendent hereto attached.

Besides these works of construction substantial progress has been made on the Zoological Garden and the aquarium. The large open-air aviary and the bear dens are nearly completed and the aquarium building is nearly ready for plastering.

Plans have been prepared by Mr. Austin and bids have been obtained for a bird house near the great open-air cage. This house will contain cages for winter occupation by large and small birds. It is surrounded by open-air cages connected with those on the interior. In these will live both summer and winter the smaller birds which cannot be put in the great open-air cage, either because they would escape through the mesh or become the prey of the large inhabitants of the great aviary.

What we had in mind in all this work has been to provide at first for a limited number of exhibits — mainly bears, birds and fishes. The provision for these will be as thorough and as good as we know how to make it. If the public find them attractive they will support us in carrying the work farther. What we are doing will give the project of a Zoological Garden a very thorough trial.

We have already been given a bear by Mr. Newkirk



100

and between forty and sixty valuable geese and ducks by Mr. J. E. Thayer. The United States Government has also promised us bears and other animals from the Yellowstone Park.

The United States Government having authorized the use of Governor's Island for a park, a plan has been made by Mr. Shurtleff for its gradual development, and this is to be respected in the planting of trees which we plan to undertake this summer. We hope also to make the pier at Governor's Island accessible for excursion boats and we are about to repair the pier at Castle Island for the same purpose.

Until lately it has been intended that the Riverbank Subway should come to the surface near Charlesgate East, and thence cross to Beacon street over some unfinished lands and pools that are in our control. As it has been decided to take the subway by Boylston street to an incline in Commonwealth avenue, the unfinished land and water spaces at the junction of the Fens and the Basin should be put in order. Mr. Shurtleff has prepared a plan looking to this end and at the same time has studied a scheme for the rearrangement of that portion of Commonwealth avenue which lies between Massachusetts avenue and Charlesgate West, the present plan of which has lost its original significance and presents inconveniences and dangers. We shall ask you to consider the possibility of an appropriation to carry out this needed improvement in a very conspicuous and important neighborhood.

The City Council by an ordinance has made it possible for the Park Board to revise restrictions as to apartment houses on the Fens so as to permit smaller apartments than formerly. The Board has voted that it will only grant this permission when the designs for the fronts of these buildings are such as it can approve as suited

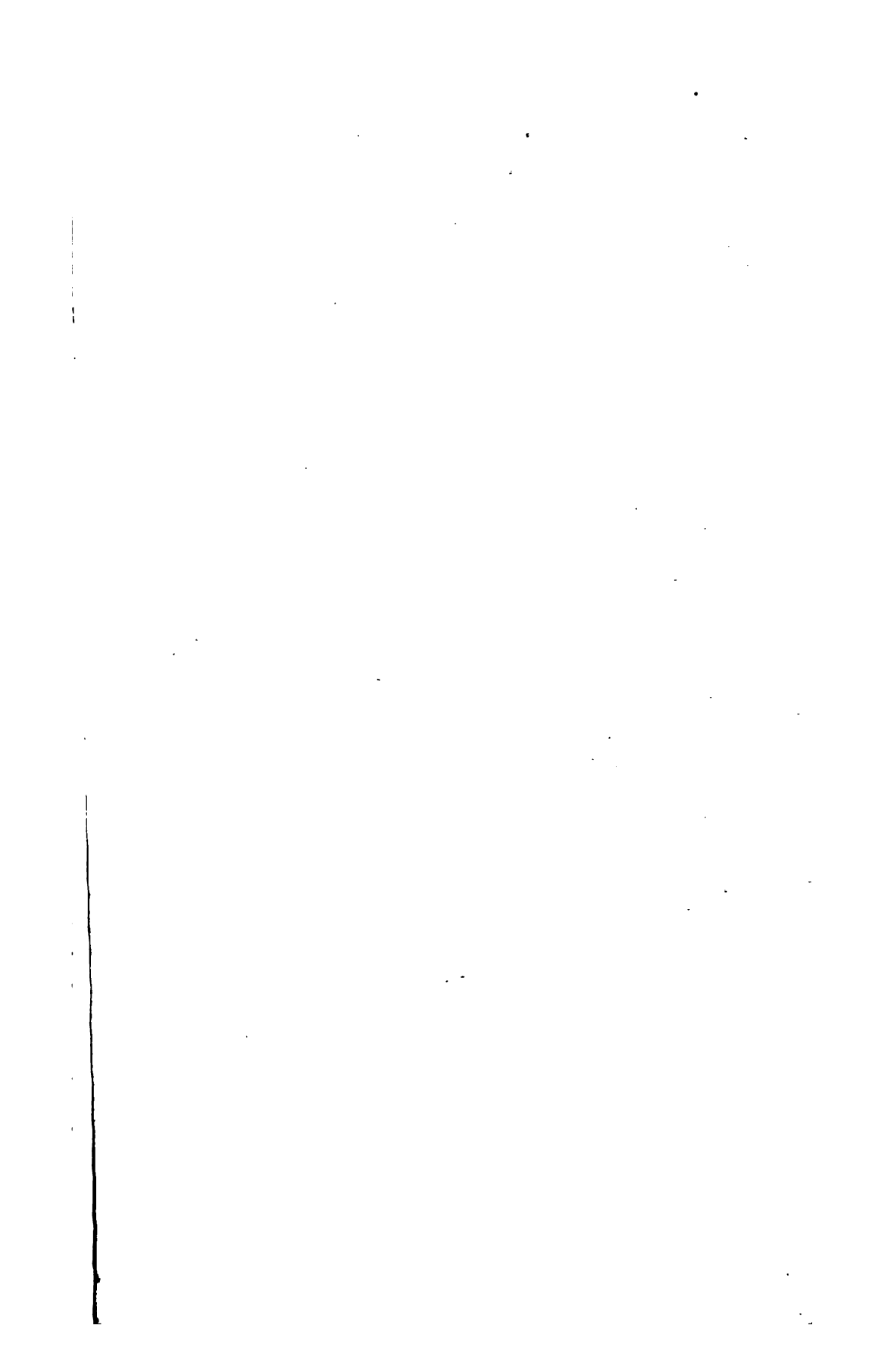
to frontage on the park. It is not our intention to demand richer materials, but only skill and study in the preparation of the design of the fronts, but it is hoped that this will result in buildings of a better design around the park than now are found in the neighboring side streets. Hitherto there has been no restriction in force except as to height, and an owner building a poor looking building might depreciate the value of the whole neighborhood. Owners have expressed great satisfaction with this vote. The board has both accepted and disapproved of designs thus laid before it, and there is every prospect of a marked improvement of the appearance of the Fenway over that of neighboring streets because of this vote.

This winter the Legislature authorized the Park Department to grant a site on the Fens for the School of Commerce provided it were asked for by the School Committee, the School Commission and the Mayor. Not only was it so asked for, but property owners in the immediate neighborhood also expressed a desire that a site might be authorized near Boylston street and Agassiz road. The Board therefore wrote your Honor the following letter:

August 31, 1911.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,—The Park Commission has been, and still is, of the opinion that park lands should not be surrendered for sites for public buildings. A special case seems, however, to be presented in the matter of the Commercial High School. The commission is disposed to consider this question on its individual merits. The Legislature has authorized the commission to grant a site within the Fens. The School Commission and the School Committee, or their representatives, have unanimously agreed on the axis of Peterborough street



as a site. The Mayor urgently wishes the school to be placed here. We understand that many of the abutters and neighbors are glad to have the building placed here. The Park Commission believe that the site selected is the least objectionable one in the neighborhood. Under these circumstances the Park Commission feels that it should not assert too strongly in this case its fixed general convictions. Therefore, with the understanding that the exterior design, shape, size and location of the building are to be submitted to the Park Commission for approval and that the building is not to be built without this approval, the Park Commission will sanction the building being placed on the axis of Peterborough street on the Fenway lands.

Yours truly,

ROBERT S. PEABODY, *Chairman.*

Later the Schoolhouse Commission presented a design, which, after certain changes were made, was approved by the Board as suitable for the situation.

On the petition of various citizens Boylston street has been opened to traffic from where it enters the Fenway on the east by way of the stone bridge to where it leaves the park on the west. Following this opening the Boston Elevated Railway petitioned for the right to run their cars by this route. A plan was finally evolved by which they might run for the most of the way on a reservation, and the Board has expressed its willingness to approve of this if the money can be found for executing the changes on the park and roads, the amount needed being about \$31,000. The complete opening of this bit of park road to traffic is approved of by the Park Board in response to a very insistent public demand, and largely because we think it offers a better solution of present difficulties than the straight

extension of Boylston street which was proposed a year ago and nearly carried out.

We also desire to point out the bad condition in which a great part of our roads now are. In the main they are macadam roads. Our yearly appropriations have permitted no radical improvements. Treatment with oil and gravel and constant repairing has been all that was possible. More serious rebuilding and surfacing is necessary to meet the wear of motors. A considerable sum should be given us each year for the repair and building of roads.

The Board would again express its wish that the playgrounds could be open to players on Sunday afternoons.

Also the Board hopes that the appropriations may be made which would enable it to employ playleaders on the different playgrounds and thus make them more useful. We have on several occasions asked for this, and we believe it is the method of solving most of the difficulties that trouble those who think as we do that our splendid playgrounds are not sufficiently used.

The Board desires to suggest again to citizens who are generously disposed that few things could confer greater public benefit than the gift, either outright or by will, of a public playground. Whether this be large for active play or small as a retreat for mothers and children, it forms an agreeable and enduring gift.

The Board desires to record its sense of the great loss the department has incurred by the death of Mrs. Wells. With Mrs. Williams she has given the greatest assistance to the department by the management of the children's playground on the Charlesbank. This, owing to their efforts largely, is a most attractive and charming portion of the property in charge of the department.

The Board is most anxious that Mrs. Williams should not resign from the work, but that she should find a suitable coadjutor to assist her in the duties she has so well fulfilled.

Yours truly,

ROBERT S. PEABODY,
JAMES M. PRENDERGAST,
DANIEL H. COAKLEY.
Commissioners.

Boston, January 31, 1912.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO ROBERT S. PEABODY, JAMES M. PRENDERGAST AND
DANIEL H. COAKLEY, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— I herewith submit a report of work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year 1911:

Early in the summer, the plans being ready, work was started on the construction of the Zoological Garden in Franklin Park. A contract was awarded to John A. Rooney for a group of five bear yards and dens. These are located in Long Crouch Woods and are of an imposing character. The walls are completed and the iron-work and flagging of the yards are well under way. Each yard contains a commodious pool. Beeches and oaks have been planted in openings among the old trees to provide shade for the concourse in front. A contract was also made with the New England Structural Company for the construction of an aquatic flying cage, 190 feet long, 60 feet wide and 60 feet high, with a swell at the back, 40 feet by 14 feet. This work, too, is well advanced, requiring to complete it only the outside wiring and the wall and pools inside. The water and sewerage for these constructions have been laid in and connected with the city system by the employees of the Park Department. A portion of the Refectory carriage shed has been impressed into service as a temporary home for newly received animals. A group of thirteen cages has been built there by Park Department employees.

The surplus oaks in the plantations in Franklin Park, which were root pruned last year, were in good condition



W E I C H



for transplanting during the past winter, having formed a fine growth of fibrous roots. The long-continued frost and snow, too, favored the work of transportation, enabling us to plant two lines of these trees on that part of Commonwealth avenue lying between Warren street and Brighton avenue. The trees were moved with frozen balls of earth, six feet in diameter, a distance of nearly five miles. They are well-grown specimens, 15 to 20 feet in height. Commonwealth avenue has thus gained in time a period of from eight to ten years required for such growth. This is more especially valuable in the oak transplantation, which, under ordinary processes, recovers slowly. From the same plantations we also have procured trees to replace those injured beyond repair along the lines of the parkways. In addition, a group of about sixty of these fine oaks has been planted as an additional protection to the flying cage in the Zoological Garden. In all the number transplanted amounts to over three hundred.

The plantations generally throughout the system are growing finely, due, no doubt, to our regular practice of annual pruning for form, and thinning out of all crowding and inferior material. The trees are all good examples of their kind and will eventually blend into dignified woodland masses, the foundation for good form and growth having been firmly established in the trees while young.

The old woodlands, too, continue to improve in vigor and beauty. By the regular planting each year of considerable quantities of undergrowth, the floor of the woodlands has become more attractive and affords better protection to birds; pheasants, especially, are becoming very plentiful. The increasing quantity of berried plants also is providing a store of food for the birds in winter, of which many take advantage. Especially is this noticeable in the large numbers of flickers

and blue jays to be found feeding among the fruits of the apple and rose families. Squirrels find abundant food among the wild fruits. This supply we reinforce by adding a little corn or wheat. The result of this care is that the winter beauty of the woodlands and glades in the parks is strongly emphasized by wild animal life.

The Herbaceous Garden in Franklin Park quite fulfilled our expectations last year. The show of late flowering and Darwin tulips in the spring was very good. The narcissi gave sheets of their golden flowers. From then until fall a succession of beautiful blooming plants followed, and closed with a rich display of hybrid asters — hybrids of our own beautiful native ones. Accompanying these were sunflowers, helesiums, salvias, chelones and a host of other good things.

The usual care was given to the shrubberies. Old or worn-out plantations were cleared off and replanted. Plantations of white pine were made on the north slopes of Scarboro Hill and Rock Morton.

Planting at Savin Hill was continued last spring. The trails are now turf covered and are quite attractive. A new trail along a picturesque slope will be completed in the spring.

Until the past year Commonwealth avenue, between Brookline avenue and the Newton line, a distance of four miles, scarcely possessed a tree, except for a mile of oaks planted four years ago. Last fall about six hundred trees were planted, completing the lines between these distant points. European elms were planted between Brookline avenue and Brighton avenue; thence red oaks to Warren street; and from that point to Chestnut Hill avenue silver leaved lindens. On two wide spaces between the car reservation on the north roadway preparation has been made for generous groups of ginkgoes, which will be planted in the spring. The ginkgo is a Japanese and Chinese tree of great beauty,



From a photograph by Geo. H. Brayton.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, SHOWING CONSTRUCTION OF BEAR DENS.

and in its natural habitat is a long-lived tree and grows to great size. Immense specimens are to be found in the grounds of the temples in Japan and China. Among these ginkgoes will be planted a lot of nurse trees for shelter, to be afterwards removed as space is required for the increasing growth of the permanent trees. It is hoped that an additional appropriation may soon be secured to prepare the high, bare slopes beyond Warren street and to plant them with trees and shrubbery.

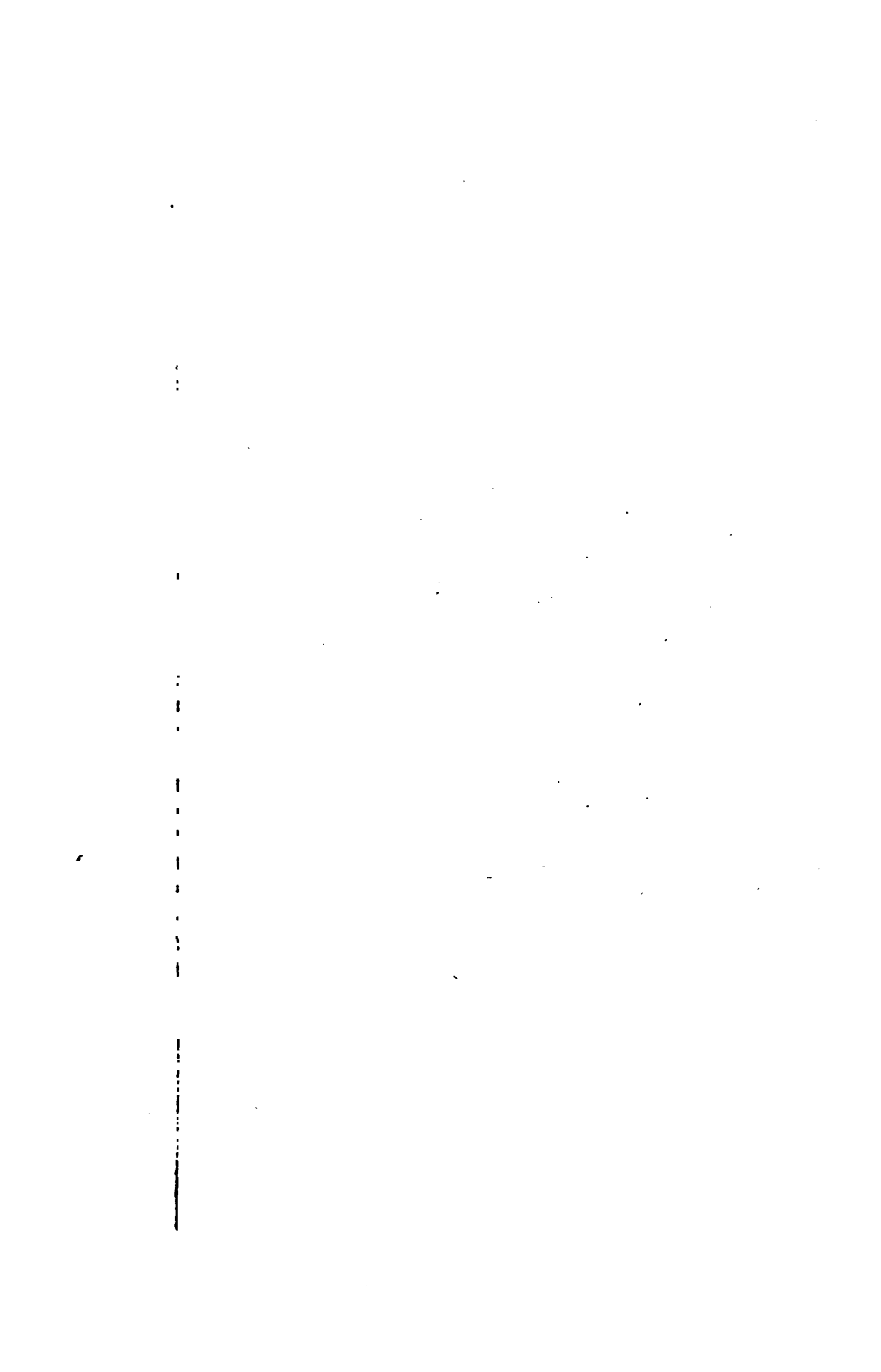
During the past season the 10-acre meadow near the Boylston Bridge was covered to a depth of 12 or 15 inches with excavated material from the new station of the elevated railway at Park street. This was overlaid with loam and seeded, which will transform the salt water marsh into a turf covered meadow, and will prove useful for recreation purposes.

At the Fens Playground all material suitable for raising the grade of the playground has been accepted. The cost to the department has been only that of leveling the filling. Further extension of the filled area has been made during the past year. It is expected that, with the material which we shall obtain from the new Boylston-street Subway during the present year, an area of about twenty acres will be filled to a grade suitable for playground purposes. This area will be in addition to the ten-acre meadow before mentioned, making a total of about thirty acres of ground available for recreation in the Fens. This will serve not only a large and populous district, but, in addition, can in time be developed into an important recreation center for a large portion of the city.

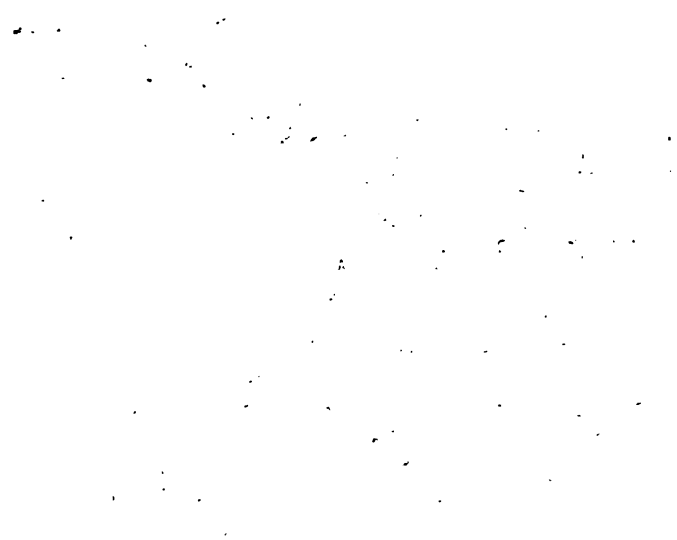
At Charlesbank an appropriation of \$20,000 from the Francis Parkman Fund was expended for various improvements, chief among which were the construction of a granolithic mall along the water front, with cross connections to the ends of streets abutting on

Charles street; the planting of two lines of Lombardy poplars on the Charles street side; substantial repairs to the fence on the sea wall; repairs on the Charles street brick walk; the installation of a system of irrigation for the mounds and lawns, and the erection of a continuous line of concrete-framed seats on the basin frontage.

The total amount appropriated for the maintenance of the park system for the year ending January 31, 1912, was \$404,974.71. Of this amount, however, \$49,914.72 was spent for construction work, leaving a net balance available for maintenance of \$355,059.99. The inroads made by construction work on the maintenance funds of the department interferes seriously with the proper maintenance of the system. The construction work referred to is that which is liable to be met at any time in the prosecution of the work of either construction or maintenance of the department, and for which no provision has been made to meet the cost; and, to avoid delay or extra cost by leaving the work undone pending the securing of an appropriation, the maintenance account is drawn upon to pay the expense. These drafts on our maintenance account for construction purposes necessarily lower the quality of the upkeep of the parks. A notable example, among others, of this may be pointed out in the condition of the parkway roads. A certain amount of required resurfacing has been deferred each year, for several years past, from lack of funds, until at the present time the department is in arrears on this particular class of maintenance work an amount of not less than \$65,000 or \$70,000. Last year we were able to resurface only about one mile of roadway. For this a Bermudez asphaltum macadam concrete was used. We followed, however, our usual custom with roads of ordinary broken stone macadam, that of spreading a dust-absorbing coat of sand on the surface, sprinkled with emulsified oil. A smooth asphaltum or



1. The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the



asphaltum-concrete surfaced road is necessarily a dusty road, because it cannot hold or absorb the dust which blows over it from other sources.

During the past year one playground has been added to those owned by your department, making twenty-six playgrounds in all. This is the John Winthrop Playground, on Dacia and Danube streets, in Ward 16, which has an area of 1.57 acres.

Of the construction work performed on the playgrounds during the past year the following items were the most important:

At the Strandway Playground a brick locker building, 133 feet by 26 feet, containing sanitary and locker accommodations, was completed and opened to the public. Excavations have been made around the building and filled with loam, in preparation for planting in the spring with groups of trees and shrubbery.

At Franklin Field a group of eight gravel tennis courts, for fast games, was commenced during the past fall, under contract with James Driscoll and Son, and will be completed early in the spring for the opening of the tennis season. A considerable part of the low area lying along the speedway was stripped of surface loam, which was piled up for future use along the side of the track, and a considerable amount of ashes taken in from the Public Works Department to help fill up to grade. This will be again covered with the loam before mentioned. A general plan of grading the field east of the new tennis courts will form a promenade of 20 feet wide, which will extend down and connect with the promenade in front of the locker building, from thence, in a straight and even grade, to a new entrance at the Talbot avenue corner. The grading of this promenade is well under way, and will doubtless be completed in time for the opening of the season in the spring. A contract has been made for the completion of the wall

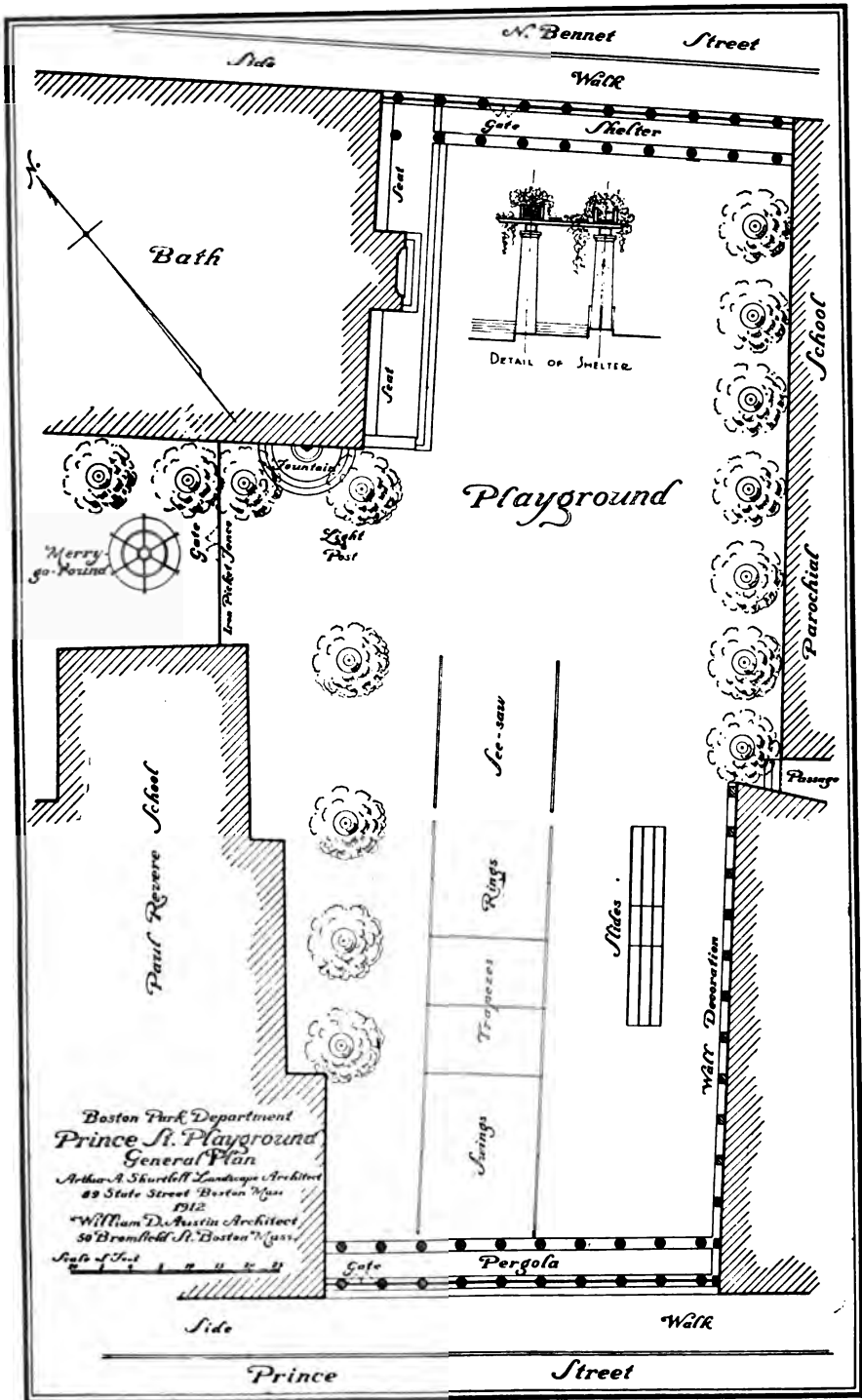
at the corner of Talbot and Blue Hill avenues, with an entrance of generous proportions. From this point the promenade will turn down within the lines of the field, parallel with Talbot avenue, to the speedway at the eastern boundary of the field. The work of grading has been roughly done. It is proposed to erect a suitable fence to protect the line of trees on the street border and equip it with seats for the use of the public while watching the games. This promenade and entrance to the field at Talbot and Blue Hill avenues, when completed, will form a very attractive feature. A little addition to the funds in hand, to be used for grading the field, will enable us to do this work in the early spring. To accommodate the fast increasing demand for bowling greens, a bowling green was roughly graded on the north plateau of the terrace in front of the locker building. This will be left one year for settlement, as the game requires a very firm and sure foundation for its green.

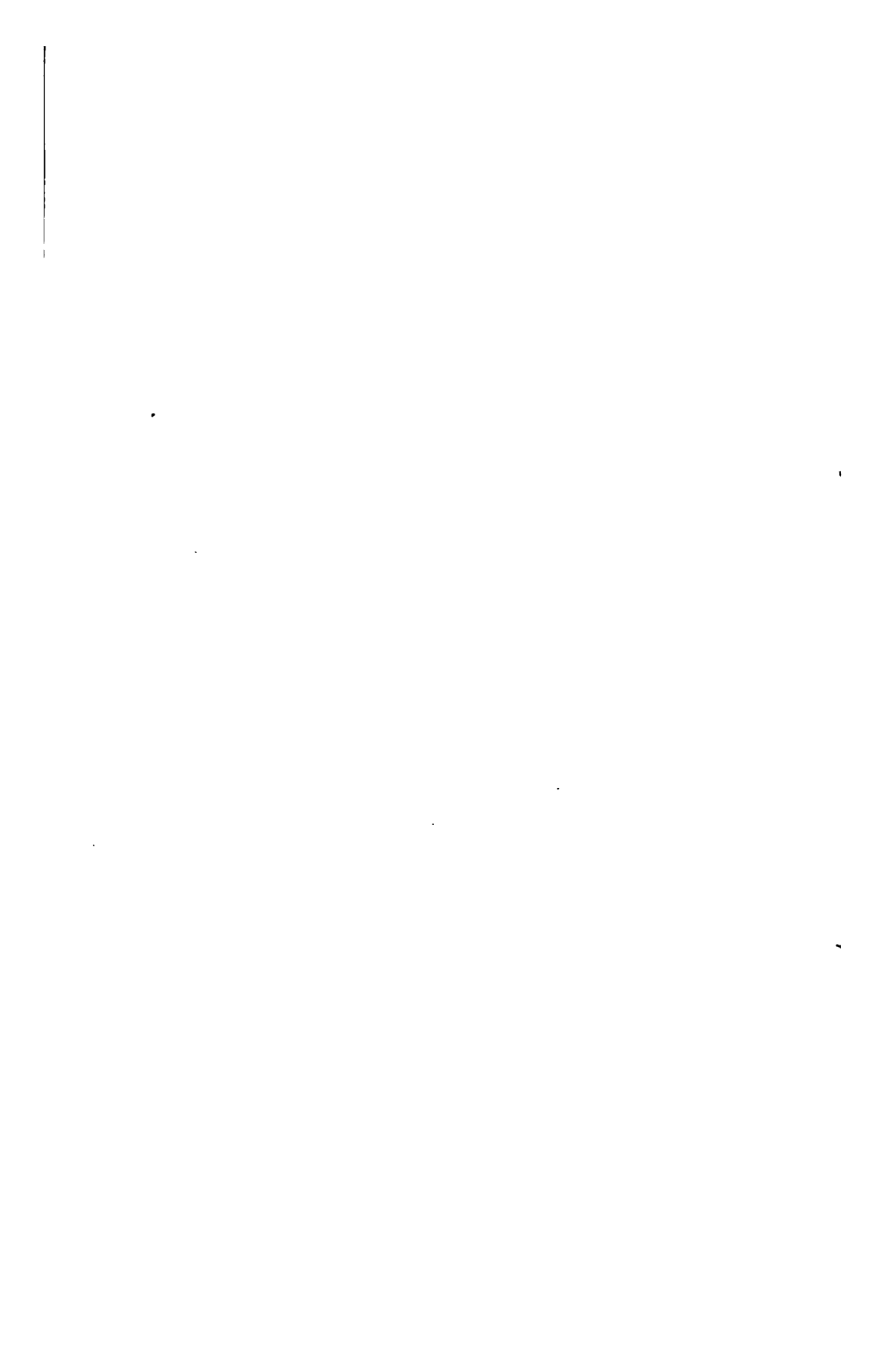
At Neponset Playground the filling received during the fall and winter of 1910 was graded in the spring of 1911 and seeded down.

At Billings Field the ground around the building was prepared and planted during the early spring.

At Prince Street Playground the stone-concrete colonnade, contracted for the previous year, was erected. The colonnade is surmounted by concrete flower boxes, which we expect to fill with blooming plants for summer decoration. During the past winter these boxes were temporarily filled with young spruces, which tended to give a warm, cozy effect to the playground.

At Mystic Playground plans have been made for the erection of a new sea wall, which will be raised to a point about four feet higher than the grade of the present sea wall. The playground will be filled to this





grade behind the sea wall, taking out the old slope of the playground and permitting of the construction of a basin for skating on the new grade. The wall will be built on the state harbor line, thus adding about five thousand feet to the area of the playground.

At Billings Field plans and specifications have been prepared for a sanitary building.

At Columbus Avenue Playground ornamental gate posts for two entrances have been erected during the past season. They form a very handsome addition to the playground. On the boundary between the railroad and the playground an artistic paneled wall was erected. Shrubbery was also planted in the borders between the street and the playground, and in the borders dividing the boys' athletic field and the remainder of the playground.

At Ashmont Playground trees and shrubbery were planted at the sanitary building during the past year.

At Roslindale Playground the planting of trees and shrubbery was done at the sanitary building.

At Forest Hills Playground plans and specifications were made for a locker building, including sanitary accommodations, and a contract let.

At Rogers Park a line of trees were planted around the borders, and the grading of the skating basin was completed.

At William Eustis Playground shrubbery and trees were planted around the borders.

At West Third and West Fifth Street Playgrounds sanitary accommodations for children were constructed during the past season, and arrangements have been made for the construction of a handsome fence at both places early in the coming spring. The posts are being prepared in the department shops and the ironwork for the fences has been purchased.

The following tables show the cost of the maintenance

of parks, playgrounds and roads for the past ten years, with the average cost per annum for the same period. The cost of maintenance of roads includes all labor, teaming, road repairs, including resurfacing, cleaning out of catch-basins, sweeping, and oiling for the suppression of dust.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.									
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street.....	60,800	\$0.216	\$0.244	\$0.215	\$0.242	.....	\$0.218				
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line..	203,700	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.083				
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line.....	264,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.210	.122	\$0.170	\$0.189	\$0.119	\$0.127
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road and Marine Park.....	372,800	.075	.079	.105	.092	.120	.120	.083	.089	.101	.139
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum.....	210,100	.079	.079	.074	.076	.068	.068	.029	.033	.030	.031
Average.....	847,200	\$0.091	\$0.096	\$0.105	\$0.101	\$0.135	\$0.107	\$0.097	\$0.107	\$0.089	\$0.108

Average cost of maintenance per annum for ten years of all park roads except at Chestnut Hill Park, \$0.103 per square yard.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.
COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1902 TO 1911, INCLUSIVE.

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA, Acres.	COST PER ACRE.									
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
1. { Commonwealth avenue.....	*30.0	\$698	\$713	\$628	\$691						
1. { Commonwealth avenue, with ex- tension to Newton line.....	112.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$553	\$376	\$463	\$507	\$328	\$359
2. Fens.....	115.0	124	126	145	120	169	170	143	121	256	145
3. Riverway.....	40.0	288	362	321	384	427	450	322	536	349	769
4. Olmsted Park.....	180.0	128	131	117	129	150	166	137	143	148	137
5. Arborway.....	36.0	196	190	217	269	300	363	359	224	211	214
6. Arnold Arboretum.....	†223.0	27	22	26	25	33	31	18	15	14	16
7. West Roxbury Parkway.....	†150.0	8	3	3	7	7	21	12	20	48	46
8. Franklin Park.....	527.0	110	111	97	103	106	139	114	136	129	121
9. Columbia road.....	31.2	140	131	227	233	295	276	173	217	256	234
10. Strandway.....	71.3	4	14	42	60	125	177	151	136	119	134
11. { Marine Park.....	52.5	125	118	111	175	174	231	227	223	234	200
11. { Castle Island.....	25.7										
12. Wood Island Park.....	55.6	118	131	121	143	159	184	179	207	202	184
13. Charlesbank.....	10.0	1,096	1,100	1,003	933	959	1,161	1,479	1,485	1,453	1,623
14. Charlestown Heights.....	6.1	452	369	307	417	489	579	605	619	542	562
15. Charlestown Playground.....	14.0	109	111	113	107	127	110	109	159	230	218
16. Dorchester Park.....	26.0	22	18	44	51	69	67	79	58	82	100
17. Franklin Field.....	77.0	113	78	72	91	92	112	95	87	110	144
18. Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.6	586	817	823	647	776	1,498	1,250	990	1,210	1,067
19. Chestnut Hill Park.....	55.4	67	92	79	106	113	119	108	112	121	131
20. North Brighton Playground.....	14.0	142	76	75	93	99	175	198	219	236	276
21. Neponset Playground.....	18.0	86	43	76	80	75	77	87	67	75	72
22. Billings Field.....	11.0	160	93	102	88	92	112	77	139	157	238
23. First Street Playground.....	4.6	229	241	631	448	519	677	708	810	900	988
24. Prince Street Playground.....	.4	590	739	2,042	2,257	2,607	2,511	2,930	400	928	623
25. Mystic Playground.....	2.3	750	328	286	352	497	422	630	294	544	823
26. Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	1,732	806	535	814	1,122	1,184	1,251	259	84	476
27. Christopher Gibson Playground....	5.8	374	296	258	301	279	261	279	280	258	302
28. Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.0	629	393	326	453	459	333	394	306	664	836
29. Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	20	.....	24	332	439	422	332	341	805	948

* At the end of 1905, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line under the care of the Park Department.

† Of this area only the roads and walks, 16.9 acres, are maintained by the city. ‡ Unimproved.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.—*Concluded.*

PARK OR PLAYGROUND.	AREA, Acres.	COST PER ACRE.									
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
30. Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	\$157	\$108	\$194	\$160	\$328	\$269	\$292	\$374	\$465	\$401
31. Roslindale Playground.....	3.7	413	160	203	235	216	269	198	275	416	621
32. Forest Hills Playground.....	9.6	14	32	130	86	59	29	79	26	68	56
33. Rogers Park.....	6.9	164	131	48	167	220	246	132	228	286	309
34. Cottage Street Playground.....	3.8	86	37	122	181	193	337	313	534	655	535
35. Randolph Street Playground.....	2.8	.....	.....	455	725	609	887	1,193	707	923	831
36. Marcella Street Playground.....	5.1	.....	64	272	315	608	480	593	652	646	596
37. Commonwealth Playground.....	8.1	.....	.....	.....	5	71	59	119	145	133	180
38. William Eustis Playground.....	4.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209	620
39. West Fifth Street Playground.....	.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	588	1,535
40. West Third Street Playground.....	.28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	875	2,216
41. Savin Hill Park.....	8.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	137
42. Trinity Triangle.....	.12	18	.....	184	.....	11	77	37	77	67	.....
43. Oak Square.....	.22	176	368	58	118	93	.....	.....	245	445	81
44. Berners Square.....	1.2	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	7	45	18
45. Orient Heights Playground.....	8.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Average.....	1,939.58	\$115	\$110	\$108	\$120	\$152	\$162	\$150	\$160	\$164	\$168

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETTIGREW, *Superintendent.*



SPEEDWAY, FRANKLIN FIELD.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION AT CHARLESBANK.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN,— The important place filled by Charlesbank in the lives of the women and children of the West End is demonstrated by the numbers that flock to it. Tennis, croquet, captain and volley ball were enjoyed by the older girls this summer as last. For girls between eight and fourteen years of age a doll's dressmaking class of about twenty-one members was formed, and under the charge of the second assistant dressed twenty-one dolls, sewing from one and a half to two hours once or twice a week. Girls of this age also made raffia bags, crocheted neckties, and in other ways used their hands and heads to advantage. On hot days the smaller children were made happy by stories and "soap-bubble" parties. When the weather was cooler they had several walks to the Public Garden, followed by rides in the swanboats and games. These pleasures were increased by the gift of chocolate and peanuts from the teacher in charge of the kindergarten class, of about twenty-eight children, from the Hebrew Industrial School, that came to the lodge during several weeks last summer as the summer before. These children had their little kindergarten chairs in the indoor gymnasium where their luncheon of milk, crackers and cookies was served, their teacher giving generously to others outside her own group.

As in previous years a hurdy-gurdy gave enjoyment that was open to all, mothers as well as children, and

the flowers given by the Bulfinch Street Mission were also a source of great pleasure to the young people.

The excessive heat in July interfered somewhat with the ordinary use of the outdoor gymnasium and with the usual gymnastic classes, but when the weather was suitable the children enjoyed the free use of the apparatus and swings, and a class of girls was held three times a week, the average attendance of which was about forty. There was no class for women, as the number desiring to take part was so small that it did not warrant giving up the gymnasium to them.

Between February 1 and May 14, 1911, 1,176 spray baths were given and 4,973 between July 3, when the new and increased facilities were in running order, and February 1, 1912.

A special treat of the summer was an all-day excursion to Revere Beach, due to the kindness of the *Traveler*. About ninety children, under proper care, with their luncheons under their arms, left Charlesbank at 8.30 a. m., marched two and two to the North Station, and there took the closed electric car provided by the *Traveler*, reaching the house kept open at Revere Beach all summer by this paper about 10 a. m. Luncheon was the first enjoyment and then came the delights of the sand and wading. As children are always hungry, the milk and crackers supplied by the *Traveler* before their return was very welcome, and the ride back to Charlesbank, where they arrived a little after 6 p. m., closed a red-letter day.

The vacation season ended with a "party" in the indoor gymnasium attended by about one hundred children. The entertainment consisted of games, songs, ice cream and cake.

The mildness of the autumn made the out-of-door gymnasium enjoyable late in the year, and this was particularly fortunate on account of the repairs going



OUTDOOR GYMNASIUM AND PLAYGROUND, WOOD ISLAND PARK.

on in the lodge. The evening classes have not as yet been held, owing to these necessary repairs.

Thanks to the kindness of friends of the committee, the superintendent, Miss Ann I. Loftus, is about to begin lessons in clay modeling and thus the children will have the happiness and profit of working in clay. Miss Loftus has ability and experience, and the delightful excursion to Revere Beach was due in the first instance to her alertness. Miss Eleanor H. Quinlan had the satisfaction of rendering much needed help to one of the "gymnasium" children whom she saw on her way back to Charlesbank after her noon hour. The child was hurt and said there was no one at her home. Miss Quinlan, therefore, took her to the Massachusetts General Hospital before returning to her duties at Charlesbank. The child's ankle proved to be broken. Miss Hazel E. Brackett, the second assistant, needed during the school vacation on account of the large attendance, contributed greatly to the happiness of the children and the value of the work.

As death has taken one member of the committee,* the other member desires to withdraw, but she will take pleasure in spending the small amount of money contributed by friends and still held by the committee for the benefit of Charlesbank.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS,
for KATE GANNETT WELLS and
ANNA PHILLIPS WILLIAMS.

* Mrs. Wells died December 13, 1911.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Playgrounds.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Commonwealth avenue Park.....	112.7 115.0	Arlington street to Newton line. Beacon street to Brookline avenue.....	Five acres playground area. Two ball grounds. Soccer football.
Riverway (in Brookline, 16.5 acres).....	40.0	Brookline avenue and Brookline line to Huntington avenue.	
Olmsted Park (in Brookline, 18 acres).....	180.0	Huntington avenue and Brookline line to Prince street.	Three acres playground area. Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, boating and skating on Jamaica pond.
Arborway.....	38.0	Prince street to Franklin Park.	
Arnold Arboretum.....	223.0	South, Centre and Walter streets.	
West Roxbury Parkway.....	150.0	Centre street to Washington street, Bellevue Hill.	
Franklin Park.....	527.0	Seaver street to Morton street and Blue Hill ave- nue to Forest Hills street.	Thirty-six acres playground area. Twelve ball grounds, tennis courts, golf links, toboggan slides and skating. Four Soccer football grounds. Shower baths. Zoo under construction.
Columbia road. Strandway.....	31.2 71.3	Franklin Park to Marine Park. Columbia road, from railroad bridge to Marine Park,	Twenty acres playground area. Six ball grounds. One Rugby and five Soccer football grounds, tennis, children's corner, skating, and shower baths.
Marine Park and Castle Island.....	78.2	Farragut road, City Point.....	Beach bathing and boating. Aquarium under construction.
Wood Island Park.....	55.6	Neptune road, from Bennington street.....	Ten acres playground area. Three ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, out-door gymnasium, cricket, tennis, skating, football, and shower baths.
Charlesbank.....	10.0	Charles street, from Cambridge street to Leverett street.	Three and one-half acres playground area. Out- door gymnasium, basket ball, children's play- ground, skating, and shower baths.
Charlestown Heights.....	6.1	Bunker Hill and Medford streets.....	One acre children's playground.
Dorchester Park.....	26.0	Dorchester avenue and Richmond street.....	One acre playground area. One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and skating.
Franklin Field.....	77.0	Talbot and Blue Hill avenues.....	Sixty acres playground area. Eighteen ball grounds, Two Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, cricket, bowling, curling, skating, running track, speedway for horses and shower baths.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Playgrounds.—Continued.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
North End Beach and Copp's Hill Terraces...	4.3	Commercial and Charter streets.....	Three acres playground area. One ball ground. Two Soccer football grounds. Bath Department in charge.
Chestnut Hill Park (reservoir and adjacent lands, 160.65 acres).....	55.4	Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue, Brighton, Lake and Foster streets.....	Four acres playground area. Three ball grounds and tennis.
Savin Hill Park.....	8.26	Grampian way.....	Four acres playground area. Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, toboggan slide and skating.
Rogers Park.....	6.9	Brent street, near Talbot avenue.....	Two ball grounds. Two Soccer football grounds, tennis and skating.
Ashmont Playground.....	2.2	La Grange and Bellevue streets, near Centre street,.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and snowdrifts.
Billings Field.....	11.0	Main and Alford streets.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, outdoor gymnasium, handball court and skating.
Charlestown Playground.....	14.0	Dorchester avenue, Geneva avenue and Park st....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, children's corner, skating and shower baths.
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	5.8	Columbus avenue and Camden street.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, children's corner, boys' athletic field, skating and shower baths. Board running track in winter.
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.0	C, D and Cypher streets and Mt. Washington avenue.....	Six ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds and skating.
Commonwealth Playground.....	8.07	Cottage street, near Maverick street.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, children's corner and skating.
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.85	Fellows and Hunneman streets.....	Children's playground, basket ball and handball court.
Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	First and M streets.....	One ball ground. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, outdoor gymnasium, basket ball, skating and shower baths.
First Street Playground.....	4.6	Washington and Florence streets.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds and basket ball.
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.6		

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Playgrounds.—*Concluded.*

Name.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Marcella Street Playground.....	5.1	Ritchie, Highland and Marcella streets.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, children's corner and shower baths.
Mystic Playground.....	2.3	Chelsea street and Mystic river.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Neponset Playground.....	18.0	Neponset avenue.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, children's corner and skating.
North Brighton Playground.....	14.0	Western avenue and North Harvard street.....	Five ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds and skating.
Orient Heights Playground.....	8.31	Saratoga and Boardman streets.....	One ball ground.
Prince Street Playground.....	4	Prince and North Bennet streets.....	Children's playground and basket ball.
Randolph Street Playground.....	2.8	Albany and Randolph streets.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, children's corner, skating and shower baths.
Roslindale Playground.....	3.7	South, Robert and South Walter streets.....	One ball ground. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and shower baths.
Savin Hill Playground.....	6.9	Springdale and Denny streets.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds and skating, also bathing beach.
West Fifth Street Playground.....	.41	West Fifth street, between D and E street.....	Children's playground.
West Third Street Playground.....	.28	West Third street, corner B street.....	Children's playground.
William Eustis Playground.....	4.88	Norfolk avenue and Proctor street.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating and shower baths.
Berners square.....	1.3	Plymouth and Bellevue streets, near Longwood avenue.....	
Oak square.....	.22	Washington and Faneuil streets.....	
Dummy Field.....	6.5	Everett street, Allston.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds and cricket.
Governor's Island.....	72.0	Boston Harbor.....	
John Winthrop Playground.....	1.57	Dacia and Danube streets.....	Children's playground.

Skating and Tobogganing — Season 1911-1912.

	Number of Days.	Total Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Jamaica Pond.....	30	105,000	3,500
Franklin Field.....	46	110,850	2,410
Scarboro Pond.....			
Roslindale Playground.....	51	11,875	233
Billings Field.....	44	11,625	264
Neponset Playground.....	44	17,650	401
Christopher Gibson Playground.....	42	16,950	404
Ashmont Playground.....	51	18,500	363
Savin Hill Playground.....	37	22,200	600
Strandway.....	40	56,200	1,405
Commonwealth Playground.....	30	20,200	673
First Street Playground.....	40	51,250	1,281
William Eustis Playground.....	52	26,975	519
Randolph Street Playground.....	49	9,200	188
North Brighton Playground.....	42	41,575	990
Charlestown Playground.....	49	29,500	602
Charlesbank.....	37	23,000	622
Wood Island Park.....	39	51,475	1,320
Cottage Street Playground.....	32	15,875	496
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	47	23,850	507
Mystic Playground.....	56	6,700	120
		670,450	
Tobogganing.....	38	26,950	709

General Exhibit of

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATIONS.	Balances from 1910-11.	Revenue received dur- ing 1911-12.	Loans issued in 1911-12.
Public park lands.....	\$89 75		
Bath House, Dewey Beach.....	2,000 00		
Billings Field, grading.....			
Charlesbank, addition to building and shower baths.....	3,930 16		
Charlesbank, improvement.....	18,946 61		
Charlestown Heights and Dewey Beach, improvements....			
Charlestown Heights, fence.....			
Charlestown Playground, gymnastic apparatus.....	261 23		
Charlestown Playground, sanitary.....	99 75		
Columbia road assessments, repayment of.....			
Columbus Avenue Playground, grading and gateways....			
Commonwealth avenue, trees.....			
Commonwealth Park, sanitary, open-air gymnasium and grading.	2,090 45		
Copp's Hill Playground, shelter.....			
Cottage Street Playground, grading and fencing.....			
Dorchester Park, water supply and fountains.....			
Fellows Street Playground, sanitary building.....			
Fens, improvements.....			
First Street Playground, lockers and gymnastic apparatus..	811 32		
Forest Hills Playground, locker building.....			
Four spraying machines.....			
Franklin Field, grading.....			
Franklin Field, locker building, completion of.....	1,892 50		
Franklin Field, tennis courts.....			
Governor's Island, improvements.....			
Jamaica Pond, shelter and boat landing.....			
Locker and Sanitary Building, Strandway Playground....			
Marcella Street Playground, gymnastic apparatus and shower baths.	4,000 78		
Marine Park, pier head, completion of.....	1,667 28		
Marine Park, sanitary accommodations.....			
Mystic Playground, sanitary and shelter.....	101 25		
Mystic Playground, sea wall and fence.....			
Neponset Playground, filling and grading.....	3,860 96		
<i>Carried forward</i>	\$39,752 04		

Appropriations, 1911-1912.

Appropriations, 1911-12.	Transfers from.	Transfers to.	Total Credits.	Expenditures for 1911-12.	Balances Unexpended.
.....	\$89 75	.....	\$89 75
.....	\$24,000 00	26,000 00	.....	26,000 00
\$1,000 00	1,000 00	.....	1,000 00
.....	3,930 16	\$2,348 73	1,581 43
.....	1,200 00	20,146 61	20,048 88	97 73
20,000 00	20,000 00	.....	20,000 00
.....	1,200 00	1,200 00	2 90	1,197 10
.....	261 23	.....	261 23
.....	99 75	99 75	.....
.....	8,000 00	8,000 00	.....	8,000 00
.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	930 30	1,069 70
10,000 00	10,000 00	20,000 00	17,961 69	2,048 31
.....	2,090 45	.....	2,090 45
28,500 00	28,500 00	.....	28,500 00
.....	750 00	750 00	.....	750 00
750 00	750 00	.....	750 00
.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00
.....	17,250 00	17,250 00	8,003 81	9,246 19
.....	811 32	388 33	422 99
.....	15,000 00	15,000 00	350 00	14,650 00
4,400 00	4,400 00	.....	4,400 00
.....	10,000 00	10,000 00	3,757 76	6,242 24
1,000 00	2,892 50	2,892 50	.....
.....	4,000 00	4,000 00	2,204 92	1,795 08
20,000 00	20,000 00	3,270 57	16,729 43
.....	20,000 00	20,000 00	.....	20,000 00
.....	20,000 00	20,000 00	14,575 81	5,424 19
.....	4,000 78	1,237 98	2,762 80
.....	3,000 00	4,667 28	2,567 25	2,100 03
.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	25 00	1,975 00
.....	101 25	101 25	.....
.....	14,000 00	14,000 00	5 35	13,994 65
.....	3,860 96	3,425 93	435 03
\$85,650 00	\$157,400 00	\$282,802 04	\$84,188 71	\$198,613 33

General Exhibit of

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATIONS.	Balances from 1910-11.	Revenue received dur- ing 1911-12.	Loans issued in 1911-12.
<i>Brought forward</i>	\$39,752 04	.....	.....
Playground Accommodations, Mattapan District.....	.....	.....	.....
Playground Accommodations, Ward 2.....	.....	.....	.....
Playground Accommodations, Ward 19.....	.....	.....	.....
Playgrounds, improvements.....	11,195 85	\$550 00	.....
Playground, Orient Heights.....	19,484 93	.....	.....
Playground, Parker Hill.....	60,000 00	.....	.....
Playground, Ward 5.....	.....	.....	\$80,000 00
Playground, Ward 7.....	25,000 00	.....	.....
Playground, Wards 7 and 9.....	16,831 46	.....	.....
Playgrounds, Ward 13.....	1,816 20	.....	.....
Playground, Ward 16.....	25,000 00	.....	.....
Playground, Ward 17.....	363 63	.....	.....
Playground, Ward 20.....	.....	.....	50,000 00
Playground, Ward 23.....	.....	.....	.....
Playground, Ward 25.....	.....	.....	.....
Prince Street Playground, improvements.....	.....	.....	.....
Recreation Ground, M, N, East Eighth and East Ninth streets and Columbia road.....	5,000 00	.....	.....
Rogers Park, planting and grading.....	.....	.....	.....
Roslindale Playground, sanitary.....	612 78	.....	.....
Savin Hill Park, improvements.....	.....	.....	.....
Savin Hill Playground, improvements.....	.....	.....	.....
Seating accommodations.....	.....	.....	.....
Strandway Playground, grading.....	.....	.....	.....
Wood Island Park, bandstand.....	500 00	.....	.....
Wood Island Park, flagpole.....	500 00	.....	.....
Zoological Garden and Aquarium.....	126,091 86	.....	.....
	\$332,148 75	\$550 00	\$130,000 00

Appropriations, 1911-12.—Concluded.

Appropriations, 1911-12.	Transfers from.	Transfers to.	Total Credits.	Expenditures for 1911-12.	Balances Unexpended.
\$85,650 00		\$157,400 00	\$282,802 04	\$84,188 71	\$198,613 33
		25,000 00	25,000 00		25,000 00
		50,000 00	50,000 00		50,000 00
		100,000 00	100,000 00	50 00	99,950 00
			11,745 85	8,571 48	3,174 37
			19,484 93	9,734 76	9,750 17
	\$60,000 00				
			80,000 00		80,000 00
		16,831 46	41,831 46		41,831 46
	16,831 46				
		4,000 00	5,816 20	2,843 87	2,972 33
			25,000 00	21,015 89	3,984 11
		1,864 69	2,228 32	2,228 32	
			50,000 00		50,000 00
		25,000 00	25,000 00		25,000 00
		15,000 00	15,000 00		15,000 00
		3,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	
			5,000 00		5,000 00
1,500 00			1,500 00	778 59	721 41
			612 78	100 85	511 93
		3,500 00	3,500 00	1,379 52	2,120 48
10,000 00	3,500 00	3,500 00	10,000 00	9 00	9,991 00
		3,000 00	3,000 00	186 97	2,813 03
		5,000 00	5,000 00	684 05	4,315 95
			500 00		500 00
			500 00	500 00	
		88,200 00	214,291 86	91,971 33	122,320 53
\$97,150 00	\$80,331 46	\$501,296 15	\$980,813 44	\$227,243 34	\$753,570 10

Expenditures on Account of Land and Construction

	Land.	Filling and Grading.	Drainage, Water Supply and Fountains.	Buildings, Bear Cages Etc.
Billings Field.....		\$93 60	\$2 62	
Charlesbank.....		921 41	109 67	\$2,348 73
Charlestown Heights.....				
Charlestown Playground.....				99 75
Columbus Avenue Playground.....				
Commonwealth avenue.....				
The Fens.....		7,958 11	45 70	
First Street Playground.....				124 35
Forest Hills Playground.....				350 00
Franklin Field.....		3,054 77	393 56	1,455 55
Governor's Island.....		765 39		379 60
John Winthrop Playground.....	\$20,994 26	21 63		
Marcella Street Playground.....				
Marine Park.....				25 00
Mystic Playground.....				101 25
Neponset Playground.....		3,400 43		
Orient Heights.....		9,116 90	584 48	
Prince Street Playground.....				
Riverway.....				
Rogers Park.....		340 43	4 80	
Roslindale Playground.....		72 75		28 10
Savin Hill Park.....		653 76		
Savin Hill Playground.....		9 00		
Strandway.....		540 45	1,309 47	13,266 34
Ward 19 Playground.....	50 00			
West Fifth Street Playground.....				1,387 06
West Third Street Playground.....				1,428 97
William Eustis Playground.....	1,864 69			5,409 00
Aquarium.....				52,471 51
Zoological Garden.....		2,034 84	10,462 10	21,925 27
Wood Island Park.....				
	\$22,908 95	\$28,983 47	\$12,912 40	\$100,800 48

From February 1, 1911, to January 31, 1912.

Planting.	Walks and Seats.	Electric Lights.	Fences, Gymnastic Apparatus and Flagpole.	Plans and Estimates.	Walls, Balustrade and Pergola.	Tennis Courts and Bowling Greens.	Pier Head, Wharf and Motor Boat.	Totals.
								\$96 22
\$1,909 26	\$14,121 06	\$173 76	\$2,802 20	\$109 25				22,495 34
			2 90					2 90
								99 75
			1,005 30		\$1,100 00			2,105 30
17,951 69								17,951 69
								8,003 81
			263 98					388 33
								350 00
					3,403 49	\$2,730 46		11,037 83
							\$2,125 58	3,270 57
								21,015 89
			1,237 98					1,237 98
							2,567 25	2,592 25
					5 35			106 60
			25 50					3,425 93
6 75			26 63					9,734 76
					3,000 00			3,000 00
	186 97							186 97
433 36								778 59
								100 85
297 55	428 21							1,379 52
								9 00
143 60								15,259 86
								50 00
35 35			57 70					1,480 11
44 54			14 00					1,487 51
58 61			13 63					7,345 93
								52,471 51
				5,077 61				39,499 82
			500 00					500 00
\$20,880 71	\$14,736 24	\$173 76	\$5,949 82	\$5,186 86	\$7,508 84	\$2,730 46	\$4,692 83	\$227,464 82

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance.

	Roads.		Walks.	Grounds.	Moth Suppression.	Buildings.
	Resurfacing.	Cleaning, Patching and Oiling.				
Commonwealth Avenue.....		\$33,683 97	\$3,400 38	\$2,941 04	\$391 81	
The Fens.....	\$2,215 93	7,300 65	1,097 89	4,015 63	249 27	\$1,336 58
Riverway.....	19,958 82	3,213 58	826 43	4,578 98	86 91	1,983 85
Olmsted Park.....	781 34	6,375 42	966 09	10,953 87	1,245 11	2,843 01
Arborway.....		3,845 00	276 27	3,098 06	58 57	
Arnold Arboretum.....		2,624 80	436 66	90 03		436 22
West Roxbury Parkway.....		37 30		2,888 13	3,827 70	132 53
Franklin Park.....		3,929 07	1,047 44	29,072 06	8,795 74	11,846 31
Columbia Road.....		4,162 75	2,339 00	666 25	132 27	
Strandway.....		3,099 04	812 60	4,069 94	136 53	1,039 43
Marine Park.....		868 62	1,319 16	5,397 32	596 36	6,073 44
Wood Island Park.....		40 29	370 49	3,284 52	290 68	1,409 04
Charlesbank.....			530 03	3,355 13	52 25	
Charlestown Heights.....			481 57	1,750 31	65 23	1,131 88
Charlestown Playground.....			84 47	1,250 80		930 72
Dorchester Park.....			17 98	1,158 69	1,257 09	134 21
Franklin Field.....		868 21	78 57	3,504 82	372 89	2,736 77
Copp's Hill Terraces.....			188 96	451 15		
Chestnut Hill Park.....		1,303 20	60 45	4,970 82	780 72	93 87
North Brighton Playground.....			17 87	1,326 94	18 46	1,827 76
Neponset Playground.....			38 20	680 14		328 83
Billings Field.....			25 85	1,011 12		1,237 25
First Street Playground.....			39 91	1,468 09		2,350 46
Prince Street Playground.....			4 47	244 62		
Mystic Playground.....			56 06	711 99		1,103 39
Fellows Street Playground.....			2 24	402 20		
Christopher Gibson Playground.....			31 07	661 15		809 86
Columbus Avenue Playground.....			122 62	1,543 23		2,048 12
Ashmont Playground.....			28 46	851 83		868 32
Savin Hill Playground.....				771 97		245 59
Roslindale Playground.....			29 97	954 72	32 14	995 54
Forest Hills Playground.....			9 99	263 91	175 65	
Rogers Park.....			50 28	1,464 03	110 42	
Berners Square.....				21 98		
Oak Square.....			7 99	9 99		
Cottage Street Playground.....			40 49	969 72		867 37
Randolph Street Playground.....			36 96	868 68		1,195 07
Marcella Street Playground.....			123 74	1,196 84		1,565 46
William Eustis Playground.....			41 96	1,268 42	51 08	1,056 16
Commonwealth Park.....			22 95	1,133 77		32 01
West Fifth Street Playground.....			22 08	567 83		
West Third Street Playground.....			20 34	560 26		
Savin Hill Park.....				875 84	264 27	
Dummy Field.....				497 03		
Trinity Triangle.....						
Orient Heights Playground.....				26 64		
Miscellaneous.....						
	\$22,956 09	\$71,351 90	\$15,107 94	\$107,850 49	\$18,991 15	\$48,659 05

February 1, 1911, to January 31, 1912.

Bridges and Piers.	CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS			Sheep and Water-fowl.	Skating and Other Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women's and Children's Gymnasium.	Miscellaneous.	Totals.
	Grading, Loan and Plantations.	Drainage and Water Supply.	Buildings, Walls and Fences, Walks.						
\$4 00	\$7,921 56	\$213 60		\$329 27	\$131 04				\$48,552 36
	6,547 35			123 54					23,227 61
	202 80			176 53	1,405 23				30,772 11
443 36									24,949 40
									7,721 26
									3,587 71
	7,168 81	31 77							6,917 43
		320 09	\$4,091 83	2,759 76	6,450 99				75,481 60
	732 93	120 55	252 41		382 27				7,300 27
1,359 97	15 53		73 01		1 33				10,645 70
		173 16			1,370 49	\$3,489 35			15,704 74
			630 01		173 88	6,734 44	\$5,380 64		10,428 02
									16,856 38
			26 20		369 15	423 06			3,428 99
	21,331 33	1,280 65	2,803 43	1,250 13	27 73				3,084 42
				2,304 83					2,595 70
	244 91				31 27				36,531 63
	271 99		33 11		667 45				640 11
			73 06		251 65				7,485 24
	276 31		28 42		345 40				4,163 58
	819 59		114 47		617 97	69 77			1,371 88
			731 41						2,924 35
	18 30				22 24				4,660 67
		80 76	597 77		250 52				1,800 09
	2,633 63	166 77	543 02		418 67	46 85			1,893 68
	44 71		437 40		336 96				422 74
	8 99				1,751 38				2,431 13
	173 80				286 14				7,522 91
	82 88	57 77			90 31				2,567 68
					508 33				2,777 93
	19 98								2,472 31
					154 02				539 86
					226 93				2,273 71
					154 24				21 98
	474 54		1,075 92		622 94				17 98
					265 93				2,051 58
			99 57						2,327 64
			16 32						3,040 28
	2,927 60		468 88				39 47		4,591 02
					65 49		39 80		1,454 66
									728 95
	27 97				39 40				636 72
									4,536 59
									562 52
									94 01
								\$11,177 58	11,177 58
\$1,807 33	\$51,945 51	\$2,445 12	\$12,095 74	\$4,639 23	\$19,724 18	\$10,763 49	\$5,459 91	\$11,177 58	\$404,974 71

INCOME.

RECEIPTS.

Received for labor	\$12,389 86
Received from sale of wool, sheep, grass, wood, use of soap and towels, etc	1,662 23
Rents	3,829 23
	<u>\$17,881 32</u>

PAYMENTS.

Appropriation Park Department	\$12,389 86
Income carried to general city income	5,491 46
	<u>\$17,881 32</u>

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1912.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Assess- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Jan. 31, 1912.
Public Park, Back Bay...	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor....	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River..	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury,	154,107 00	113,808 00	40,299 00	31,913 00	8,386 00
" Dorchester.....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,696 98</u>	<u>\$397,056 02</u>	<u>\$383,694 30</u>	<u>\$13,361 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1912 \$16,331,910 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund January 31, 1912 849,563 59

Net Debt January 31, 1912 \$7,482,347 39

Park Statistics to January 31, 1912.

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to DATE.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM:									
Commonwealth avenue.....	1894-1905	.....	\$139,559 62	\$139,559 62	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles	1.1 miles	22 acres
Fens.....	1877-1879	\$596,254 49	2,153,379 25	2,755,133 74	115 "	4 "	6.7 "	1.2 "	8 "
* Riverway.....	1890	457,457 53	674,296 32	1,131,753 85	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.6 "	77 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890 and 1892	1,081,947 60	734,373 59	1,816,321 19	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.4 "	0.6 "
Arborway.....	1892	245,534 25	381,793 81	627,378 06	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	2.4 "	
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882 and 1895	79,354 15	388,372 84	467,726 99	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....
West Roxbury Parkway....	1894	135,265 29	22,123 21	157,388 50	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "	
Franklin Park and Zoological Garden.....	1883 and 1884	1,551,896 63	2,470,214 80	4,022,111 43	527 "	7.3 "	14.9 "	1 mile	7.4 "
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899	447,528 63	540,511 93	988,040 56	{ 102.5 " land 194 " flats }	4.2 "	4.5 "		
Dorchesterway.....	1892	63,735 54	65,187 12	128,922 66					
Strandway.....	{ 1890, 1892, 1897 and 1901 }	772,515 12	405,818 82	1,178,333 94	{ 52.5 " land 4.9 " flats 25.7 " land 78.3 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.3 "	.....	3.4 "
Marine Park and Aquarium,	1883	232,972 57	1,115,482 49	1,348,455 06					
† Castle Island.....	1890	.....	38,185 55	38,185 55					
Carried forward.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$9,134,799 35	\$14,799,311 15	1,841.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1912.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$5,664,511 80	\$9,134,799 35	\$14,799,311 15	1,841.60 acres	41.80 miles	61.05 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
† GOVERNOR'S ISLAND.....	1911	.....	3,270 57	3,270 57	73	"	"	"	"
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1883 and 1891	132,800 00	259,773 53	392,573 53	{ 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats }	0.3 mile	2.1 "	"	"
CHARLESBANK.....	1883	373,916 99	337,968 97	711,885 96	10 "	"	1.5 "	"	"
** TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.12 acre	"	"	"	"
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS.....	1891	50,538 02	103,110 46	153,648 48	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats }	"	0.4 mile	"	"
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND..	1891	172,923 31	31,770 70	204,694 01	{ 14 " land 4 " flats }	"	0.6 "	"	"
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891 and 1903	64,165 37	13,561 18	77,726 55	26 "	"	"	"	"
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892	157,341 22	173,901 93	331,243 15	77 "	0.65 "	0.35 "	"	"
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893	228,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 3 " flats }	"	"	"	"
COFF'S HILL TERRACES.....	1893	90,858 19	32,001 46	122,859 65	0.6 acre	"	0.11 "	"	"
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898, 1899 and 1902 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	"	"	"
NORTH BRIGHTON P L A Y - GROUND.....	1894	22,107 12	30,802 77	52,909 89	14 "	"	"	"	"
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896	24,804 39	25,754 32	50,558 71	18 "	"	"	"	"
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896	47,068 98	23,367 53	70,436 51	11 "	"	"	"	"
|| FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND.	1897	.....	30,417 41	30,417 41	4.6 "	"	0.4 "	"	"
<i>Carried forward</i>		\$7,369,638 89	\$10,376,703 05	\$17,746,341 94	2,377.42 acres	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1912.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.....</i>		\$7,369,638 89	\$10,376,703 05	\$17,746,341 94	2,377.42 acres	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
FRANKFORT STREET TRIANGLE.....	1897	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre				
PRINCE STREET PLAYGROUND.....	{1897, 1899} {and 1901 }	180,474 70	3,434 07	183,908 77	0.4 "				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897	50,125 00	8,296 76	58,421 76	2.3 acres				
FELLOWS STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1897	14,503 72	7,032 64	21,536 36	0.85 acre				
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAYGROUND.....	1897	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAYGROUND.....	{1899, 1900} {1901, 1902 }	327,503 84	35,402 81	362,906 65	5 "				
ASHMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899	43,990 09	8,000 00	51,990 09	2.2 "				
SAYN HILL PLAYGROUND.....	1899	27,147 30	11,138 36	38,285 66	{ 6.9 " land 11.7 " flats				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.....	1899	24,825 11	13,463 78	38,318 89	3.7 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND..	1902	25,166 75	350 00	25,516 75	9.6 "				
COTTAGE STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1902	47,002 32	7,997 68	55,000 00	3.85 "				
RANDOLPH STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	27,302 32	283,742 95	2.8 "				
<i>Carried forward.....</i>		\$8,408,527 93	\$10,509,194 22	\$18,917,722 15	2,432.66 acres	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1912.—Continued.

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.		Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,408,527 93	\$10,509,194 22	\$18,917,722 15	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
MARCELLA STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903, 1905	.....	32,392 48	32,392 48	5.1 *			
* ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	4,631 70	34,631 70	6.9 *			
* BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901	.....	294 70	294 70	1.2 *			
* OAK SQUARE.....	1902	.....	682 34	682 34	0.22 acre			
* CAMBRIDGE, LINCOLN AND MANFIELD STREETS.....	1910	.....	.....	.....	0.32 *			
* COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905	.....	7,909 55	7,909 55	8.07 acres			
SAVIN HILL PARK.....	1909	31,925 55	6,953 97	38,879 52	8.26 *			
ORIENT HEIGHTS PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,015 00	10,234 83	20,249 83	8.31 *			
WEST THIRD STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	2,620 42	12,821 72	0.28 acre			
WEST FIFTH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	3,004 65	13,205 95	0.41 *			
WILLIAM EUSTIS PLAY- GROUND.....	1909	68,187 06	24,477 49	92,664 55	4.88 acres		•	
<i>Carried forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,569,058 14	\$10,802,399 35	\$19,171,454 49	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park Statistics to January 31, 1912.—*Concluded.*

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward</i>.....	.....	\$8,569,058 14	\$10,602,396 35	\$19,171,454 49	2,476.61 acres	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
JOHN WINTHROP PLAYGROUND, 1911	1911	20,994 26	21 63	21,015 89	1.57 acres				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....	.....	295 29	.....	295 29					
General account.....	.....	\$8,590,347 69	\$10,602,417 98	\$19,192,765 67					
Park Nursery.....	.....	.....	73,987 50	73,987 50					
Betterment expenses.....	.....	.....	29,947 07	29,947 07					
		.....	13,356 10	13,356 10					
		\$8,590,347 69	\$10,719,708 65	\$19,310,056 34	2,478.18 acres	44.15 miles	66.51 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

* An additional area of 16½ acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to the city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 160.65 acres, including water area of 122.70 acres, is under the control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

|| Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

** Transferred to Street Department.

‡ Transferred to Public Grounds Department.

125,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

‡ Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by the Public Grounds Department.

‡ Originally dedicated for a square by David Sears and released to the city by his heirs.

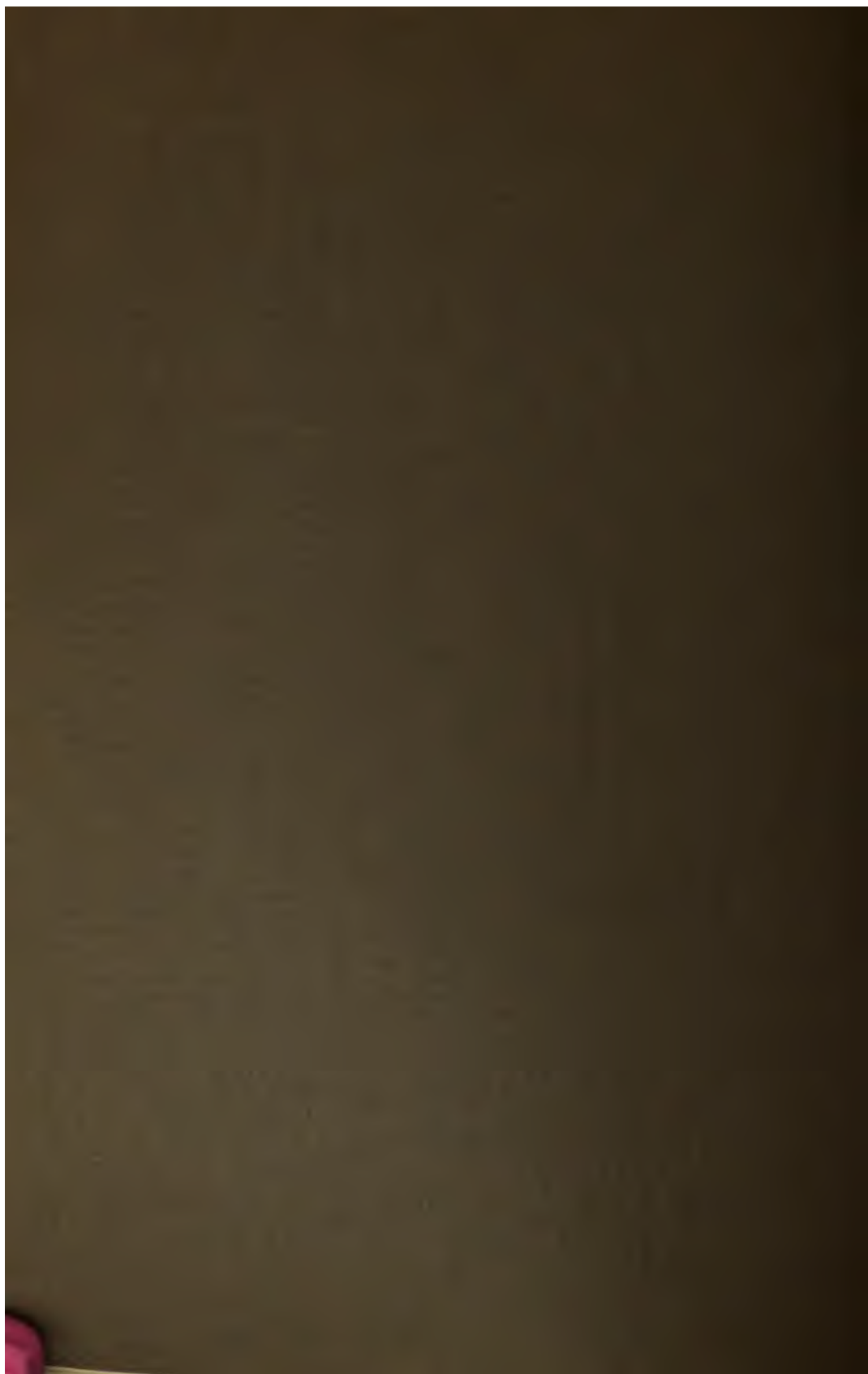
‡ Transferred from School Department.

‡ Transferred from Street Commissioners.

‡ Custody given to the city by Statutes 1891, chapter 421.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.







City of Boston

PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1915



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1915



City of Boston
PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JAMES M. CURLEY,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,— In compliance with the Revised Ordinances the Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners herewith presents the annual report for the year 1914–15.

JOHN H. DILLON, *Chairman.*

CHARLES GIBSON.

THOMAS F. GALVIN.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

TO JOHN H. DILLON, CHARLES GIBSON AND THOMAS F. GALVIN, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— I herewith submit a report of work performed in the department under the direction of your Board during the year ending January 31, 1915.

Grading in the vicinity of the Parkman Memorial Bandstand was completed, the loam spaces being seeded and the Forum surfaced with a mixture of beach gravel and sand. The bandstand was surrounded with a circular row of concrete seats.

Commonwealth avenue lawns from Arlington street to Dartmouth street were reinforced with loam brought in from Roxbury and placed in trenches 4 feet in depth and from 10 to 12 feet in width, great care being taken to avoid the tree roots. Sufficient fertilizer was used to properly nourish the trees.

A 4-inch cast-iron pipe was also laid under the lawns from Arlington street to Exeter street with suitable connections for irrigation.

In the Fens a creditable horticultural display was made in what was known as "The Convention Garden." This garden was arranged in conjunction with the annual convention in Boston of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists. Exhibits were made by thirty-two florists and nurserymen from all parts of the country.

Seventy beds were laid out containing many choice varieties of shrubs and plants. The bays in the lagoon contained a fine exhibit of aquatics.

The department planted five beds near the main entrance and these were much admired by the throngs of people who visited the garden throughout the year.

While the garden was nominally laid out and planted under the auspices of the Florists' Society the work was actually performed by the department force and reflected great credit upon it.

At the Fens also some necessary changes were made on the drive at the entrance to the new wing of the Art Museum, a tar macadam surface was laid down surrounding a circular grass plot.

At Franklin Park walks were constructed from the Bird House to and around the Elephant House, the latter building having been erected during the year. The Elephant Yard was also laid out and surrounded with a strong iron rail fence and a guard fence. The necessary grading in connection with the above work was also completed.

The widening of Seaver street was commenced during the year but is unfinished. The work is under the control of the Public Works Department according to designs prepared by the Park and Recreation Department.

The golf links were improved by laying a water service pipe 4,300 feet long to the new greens, sixteen of which were laid out. The greens were trenched over, fertilized, graded and prepared for spring seeding.

This gives room for a nine-hole course with a spare green and a six-hole course for beginners.

At Franklin Field the ground along Blue Hill avenue was graded by the department force to permit of the extension of the bowling greens and of the tennis courts, the present facilities being inadequate for the demands of the public.

Norfolk Street Playground was improved by grading the upper level of the playground and by building a retaining wall.

At Rutherford Avenue Playground a concrete retaining wall was built and a high fence erected inclosing the boys' playground.

Road repairs were made during the year on Commonwealth avenue from Summit avenue to Lake street, in the Fens from Newbury to Boylston street, from Boylston street to Agassiz road and from Fens Bridge to Brookline avenue and in the Riverway from Brookline avenue to Longwood avenue.

In Olmsted Park, Jamaica way was repaired from Perkins street to the Arborway.

In all 71,250 square yards were treated with a blanket coat of tar, this being about 3.6 miles of parkway. This method of road treatment is far superior to the old method of sprinkling with oil emulsion.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES B. SHEA,
Deputy Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BATHS.

TO JOHN H. DILLON, CHARLES GIBSON AND THOMAS F. GALVIN, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— I beg to submit herewith the annual report of the recreation division of this department for the year 1914-15.

The recreation division of this department still continues to enlist the active coöperation of thousands of its citizens with the resultant dividends of health, happiness and good citizenship. The varied facilities of the department in the recreational field serve to permit the citizens of Boston to enjoy healthful and recreative pastimes for twelve months of the year, and each department in turn has its quota of patrons who show their appreciation of what this department provides with their constant and faithful attendance at and indulgence in their favorite form of play.

Every section of this city can boast of some facility which provides full advantage to its local citizenship. The department with its nine public gymnasias, eight out-door beaches and twelve all year around bath houses, two golf courses, three toboggan slides, over one hundred tennis courts, two bowling greens, together with its innumerable skating areas, gives to its citizens full and varied facilities. The improvements which have been made during the past year tending towards a thorough and up-to-date management of these different items are numerous and extend through every section of the city.

NORFOLK STREET PLAYGROUND.

This playground in Mattapan furnishes an additional asset to the department and gives to the people of this section an additional opportunity to recreate. Two baseball diamonds will be provided as well as four tennis courts, while the locker and shower building is an up-to-date and picturesque monument, suited to requirements of this new adjunct.

FRANKLIN FIELD.

The new tennis courts which have been made in Franklin Field have justified the confidence of the department in the widespread interest which is taken in tennis. The bowling greens also have their constant delegation on hand long into the summer evenings indulging in this popular sport. The eighteen baseball diamonds are really inadequate to meet the demands in this section, while the quarter-mile cinder running track is the mecca for hundreds of schoolboy, college and club athletes on every summer evening.

FRANKLIN PARK.

About fifty tennis courts are scattered through Franklin Park, wherever an area of sufficient size and smoothness presents itself, and all are occupied on Saturday afternoons and during the summer evenings. The six-hole golf course for beginners and the nine-hole course for the more adept have been the means for permitting this most popular time among all classes. In fact, the necessity becomes more obvious yearly of extending the nine-hole course into an eighteen-hole course, thereby alleviating the congestion at the different tees, and furnishing additional opportunity for new patrons to take up this sport. The three toboggan slides on Schoolmaster's Hill furnish a most enjoyable means of rec-

reaction in the winter time for young and old alike on the afternoons and evenings. Quarters have been provided for the storage of toboggans and every means provided for the health and comfort of the devotees of this sport.

An innovation was made in the department curriculum this past year by permitting the New England Inter-collegiate Athletic Association to hold its annual cross country run over a course which was pronounced ideal by the representatives of the various New England colleges who participated.

L STREET.

The widespread popularity of this institution has been intensified during the past year by the ever increasing number of patrons who have recourse to those waters during the twelve months of the year. Its quarters were crowded on many days far beyond its ordinary capacity, but temporary means were adopted for taking care of the extraordinary numbers on such days. The house was well regulated as to its method of management and equipment and maintained in an up-to-date and satisfactory manner at all times.

TENEAN BEACH.

During the past year additional structures were built on Tenean Beach to replace the former ones which were burned down. The necessity of constructing a brick or cement structure containing more adequate facilities as regards lockers and showers is made more evident year by year.

DEWEY BEACH.

A new and up-to-date brick building which was opened at Dewey Beach in Charlestown this past year has already proved its worth. Here, too, provisions

were made for segregating the different ages and sexes and many new lockers provided for those who crowded this popular beach during the summer season. A small play corner should be provided for the children this coming year.

ATHLETIC GAMES.

During the past year athletic games with graduated events, suited to the various divisions, were held throughout the different sections of the city. Three classes were formulated, senior, intermediate and junior competitors, and the events were arranged suitable to these various ages and divisions. Over one thousand participants took part in the preliminary district contests which were held in different sections of the city and the three first place winners in each event competed in the final meet at Franklin Field for the championship of the city. The success of these contests invoked the approbation of all critics who seek to provide healthful and body building contests for the influence of the city, and the number of participants and the widespread interest, also the large attendance of people who witnessed the contest did much to fasten a hold on the boys of the entire city. Swimming contests were likewise held under similar conditions on the various beaches of the city, and the winners of these respective district contests competed in the final meet at Wood Island for the championship of the city. Handsome prizes with the department seal were given to the winners in the respective events.

The department gymnasiums are still the object of admiration by visitors from other cities and the curriculum of the gymnasiums serve to draw to its quarters young and old alike with an ever increasing attendance yearly. The graduated system of gymnastics, for both young and old as well as the development of the candi-

dates for the Police and Fire Departments in the civil service classes, prove conclusively the extraordinary amount of benefit which accrues to all who use our public gymnasias. They also serve to support a propaganda of healthful and hygienic principles among people who hitherto have been ignorant of its advantages, and the incessant demands of people who live in sections where public gymnasiums have not as yet been provided prove conclusively that all are thoroughly acquainted with the advantages of such an institution within their reach.

MCKENZIE BEACH.

A new house was also built on McKenzie Beach to replace the former structure which was destroyed. The development of the adjacent McNary Park Playground may make it important in the near future either to discontinue this beach as a bathing resort or constructing a stone wall which will prevent the débris which is being dumped nearby from floating onto the beach area.

The two new and up-to-date houses containing gymnasias and shower rooms which are being constructed in Roxbury and South End will prove of an estimable value to the citizens of these respective districts. They should be opened this coming year. A new building which is also to be opened shortly, the Ward 15, in South Boston, will prove a valuable link in the chain of bath houses which this city seeks to provide for every section. It has permanent shower rooms for both men and women with over one hundred shower baths to be provided.

NORTH END PARK.

The necessity of securing an appropriation for the remodeling of the North End Park Beach and piers is

evident even to a casual observer. This most popular institution with its playground, beach and recreational piers serves a most cosmopolitan patronage who have recourse to its cooling waters in the daytime, and its piers in the evening, as a tonic and relief from the oppressive tenements nearby.

CHARLESBANK GYMNASIUM.

A serious problem confronts this department in the West End where no baseball facilities are provided nearer than Boston Common. It has been necessary to take down the apparatus at the Charlesbank Gymnasium to permit baseball playing by the boys of this vicinity to the detriment of the track athletes, who still maintain this, the first municipal out-door gymnasium in the world, as the favorite resort to practice in track athletics, but the dangers of baseball prevent the track patrons from enjoying the facilities provided here to their safety.

WOOD ISLAND.

The new bath house at Wood Island will be a decided improvement over the former wooden structure. Girls are segregated from women, and boys from men in this new structure, and all together it will be a decided boon to the health and comfort of the people of East Boston as well as a fitting type of building that harmonizes with its surroundings.

The policy of this department should be, if possible, to provide swimming pools in every section of the city, thereby providing an opportunity to indulge in swimming for twelve months of the year, just as now our gymnasiums and playgrounds provide twelve months of recreation. Children could be taught to swim during the scholastic year as well as throughout the short summer season as is done in foreign countries, for

swimming is one of the most valuable assets in life and should be acquired during the early years.

Several playground houses have as yet been unprovided with showers and means should be taken as soon as money is available to provide shower baths for the patrons of these playgrounds, for showers are, undoubtedly, a necessary part of the equipment of any building as lockers or other facilities.

The problems which this department helps to solve of furnishing recreation for young and old alike during the hours when people are at their leisure make this department one of the most sanitary of any in the city. Ordinarily, adults have eight hours of time in which they are not occupied and these hours are prolific of much good or harm dependent on whether the people are idle or engaged in healthful recreation. With the innumerable and varied activities which this department provides, there is no reason why the people of Boston could not become better citizens, more thoroughly equipped mentally and physically, for the successful carrying out of their daily pursuits as well as make them a more contented and happy community.

Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH C. McGRATH,
Superintendent of Baths.

REPORT OF THE PHYSICAL DIRECTOR.

TO JOHN H. DILLON, CHARLES GIBSON AND THOMAS
F. GALVIN, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— In presenting the report of activities carried on under my direction for the past twelve months I would state that the statistics and observation not covered by figures prove this to have been the busiest and most active year this department has yet seen.

Attendance, regular and spontaneous, unsolicited except by implied welcome and evident desire to serve well those who present themselves for the advantages which we offer, is the very potent evidence that is our attest of the appreciation of the public of Boston's gymnasia.

The usual class work for men and women, boys and girls and working boys, was the large feature of the year as in the past and was without any marked or special change except in the case of the working boys' classes.

A studied effort everywhere was made to foster and kindle the interest of this class of youthful dynamos, with very gratifying and lasting results. The line of attack was on competitive athletics. Boys of an average age of fifteen years were organized into teams, and regular semimonthly track meets were held in all the large gymnasia. We shall endeavor in the future to hold and keep alive this much to be desired interest which we have evoked.

Each year an increasing number of men avail themselves of the civil service training for the Police and Fire Departments which we offer to applicants, and it has been aptly remarked by an official of this department that the increasing efficiency of those two branches of the public service can be directly attributed to a great degree to the preliminary work in our gymnasias.

The summer work on the playgrounds was very like the work of last year, the same plans being adhered to of carrying on various district and interdistrict competitions, ending in a season finish in which the winners of the previous district meets and races tested their skill.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES L. WALSH,
Physical Director.

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.
COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1905 TO 1914, INCLUSIVE.
Maintenance of Roads.

PLAYGROUNDS.	Acres.	COST PER ACRE.										
		1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	
Ashmont Playground.....	2.200	\$332	\$439	\$422	\$332	\$341	\$805	\$948	\$105	\$970	\$774	
Billings Field.....	11.000	88	92	112	77	139	157	238	268	277	160	
Carolina Avenue Playground.....	* 3.100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	299
Charlestown Playground.....	14.000	107	127	110	109	159	230	218	286	498	220	
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.000	453	439	383	394	306	664	836	1,622	1,156	713	
Commonwealth Playground.....	8.100	5	71	59	119	145	133	180	239	226	146	
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.800	181	193	337	313	534	655	535	538	770	433	
Dummy Field.....	* 6.400	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	83	1
Factory Hill Playground.....	* 5.200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	8
Fellows Street Playground.....	.850	814	1,122	1,184	1,251	259	84	476	579	2,670	2,324	
First Street Playground.....	4.600	448	519	677	708	810	900	988	963	832	668	
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.800	86	59	29	79	26	68	56	146	259	154	
Franklin Field.....	77.000	91	92	112	95	87	110	144	184	251	189	
Gibson Playground.....	5.800	301	279	261	279	280	258	302	403	610	431	
John Winthrop Playground.....	1.800	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	667	327
Marcella Street Playground.....	5.100	315	608	480	593	652	646	596	866	926	849	
Massachusetts Avenue Playground.....	3.300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65	363	134
Mt. Ida Playground.....	* 11.100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	147	98
Myrtle Playground.....	2.300	352	497	422	680	294	544	823	959	1,049	1,183	
Neponset Playground.....	18.000	80	75	77	87	67	75	79	97	74	45	

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS—Continued.

	Acres.	Cost per Acre.									
		1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Arborway	36.000	\$269	\$300	\$363	\$359	\$224	\$211	\$214	\$204	\$176	\$93
Arnold Arboretum.....	* 223.000	25	33	31	18	15	14	16	19	22	17
Charlesbank.....	10.000	933	959	1,161	1,479	1,485	1,453	1,623	1,574	1,636	1,073
Charlestown Heights	6.100	417	489	579	605	619	542	562	539	576	497
Chestnut Hill Park.....	55.400	106	113	119	108	112	121	131	146	99	53
Columbia road.....	31.200	233	295	276	173	217	256	234	204	213	153
Commonwealth avenue.....	† 30.000	691									
Dorchester Park.....	112.700		553	376	463	507	32	359	809	613	363
Fens.....	26.000	51	69	67	79	58	82	100	169	122	41
Franklin Park.....	115.000	120	169	170	143	121	256	145	150	209	151
Governor's Island.....	527.000	103	106	139	114	136	129	121	137	148	107
Marine Park and Castle Island.....	73.000								21	65	13
Olmsted Park.....	78.200	175	174	231	227	223	234	200	222	247	147
Riverway.....	180.000	129	150	166	137	143	148	137	235	137	89
Savin Hill Park.....	40.000	384	427	450	322	536	349	769	290	260	199
Stradway.....	8.300										
West Roxbury way.....	74.300	60	125	177	151	136	119	134	173	147	126
	† 150.000	7	7	21	12	20	48	46	23	21	8

Wood Island Park.....	55.600	143	159	184	179	207	202	184	277	238	193
opp's Hill Terraces.....	.600	647	776	1,498	1,250	990	1,210	1,067	1,312	919	122
Average.....	1,802.40									\$196	\$102
Adams square.....	.048										
Adams street.....	.016									\$2,896	\$1,355
Algonquin square.....	.040									1,919	1,468
Alvah Kittredge park.....	.129									987	452
Belmont square.....	.689									560	672
Berners square.....	1.300				\$10	\$7	\$45	\$18	\$13	48	6
Berwick park.....	.087									1,574	150
Blackstone square.....	2.410									398	475
Boston Common.....	48.400									643	661
Brighton square.....	.574									526	331
Bromley park.....	.482									441	124
Camp Meigs.....	2.806									126	95
Carruth square.....	.017									6,022	716
Cedar square.....	.601									407	288
Central square.....	.925									520	367
Centre square.....	.074									612	864
City Hall Grounds.....	.177									1,398	586

* Of this area only the roads and walks, 16.5 acres, are maintained by the city.

† At the end of 1905, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line under the care of the Park Department. ‡ Unimproved.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.									
		1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street.	60,600	\$0 242	.....	\$0 218	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line.	203,700	.....	.....	083	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line.	264,300	.....	\$0 210	122	\$0 170	\$0 189	\$0 119	\$0 127	\$0 309	\$0 173	\$0 086
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road and Marine Park.	372,800	092	120	120	083	089	101	139	086	068	054
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum.....	210,100	076	068	068	029	033	030	031	043	038	018
Average.....	847,200	\$0 101	\$0 135	\$0 107	\$0 097	\$0 107	\$0 089	\$0 108	\$0 145	\$0 093	\$0 055

The above table shows the cost of maintenance of roads for the last ten years, with the average cost per annum for the same period. This includes all labor, teaming and road repairs, including resurfacing, cleaning out of catch-basins, sweeping and oiling for the suppression of dust.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1914-15.

Parks and Gardens.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Adams square.....	2,088 sq. ft.	Junction of Adams and Granite streets.	
Adams street.....	048 acre	Junction of Adams and Codman streets.	
Algonquin square.....	700 sq. ft.	Algonquin and Bradlee streets.	
Alvah Kittredge Park.....	1,728 sq. ft.	Highland street and Highland avenue.	
Arbway.....	04 acre	Prince street to Franklin Park.	
Arnold Arboretum.....	5,600 sq. ft.	South, Centre and Walter streets.	
Belmont square.....	.129 acre	Webster, Sumner, Lamson and Seaver streets.	
Berners square.....	36 acres	Longwood avenue, Pilgrim road and Plymouth street.	
Berwick park.....	223 acres	Off Columbus avenue, near New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.	
Blackstone square.....	.689 acre	Washington, West Brookline, West Newton streets and Shawmut avenue.	
Boston Common.....	57,200 sq. ft.	Park, Tremont, Boylston, Charles and Beacon streets.	Ball ground and children's corner. Skating during the winter.
Brighton square.....	1.3 acres	Between Chestnut Hill avenue and Rookland street.	
Bromley park.....	3,800 sq. ft.	From Albert street to Bickford street.	
Camp Meigs.....	105,100 sq. ft.	Clifford, Stanley and Irving streets.	
Carruth square.....	2,096,020 sq. ft.	South Conway, South Fairview and Robert streets.	
Cedar square.....	25,035 sq. ft.	Cedar street, between Juniper and Thornton streets.	
Central square.....	20,975 sq. ft.	Meridian and Border streets.	
Centre square.....	482 acre	Centre and Perkins streets.	
Charlesbank.....	124,500 sq. ft.	Charles street, from Cambridge street to Leverett street.	Three and one half acres playground area. Outdoor gymnasium, basket ball, children's playground, skating, shower baths, floating baths and women's indoor gymnasium and boating.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1914-15.—Continued.

PARKS AND GARDENS.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Charlestown Heights.....	6.1 acres	Bunker Hill and Medford streets.	One acre children's playground.
Chestnut Hill Park (reservoir and adjacent lands, 160.65 acres).	55.4 acres	Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue, Brighton.	Four acres playground area. Three ball grounds and tennis. One Rugby football ground and one Soccer football ground.
City Hall Grounds.....	7,700 sq. ft. .177 acre	School street.	
City square.....	8,739 sq. ft. .201 acre	Head of Bow and Main streets.	
Columbia road.....	31.2 acres	Franklin Park to Marine Park.	
Public square.....	2,250 sq. ft. .516 acre	Junction of Columbus and Warren avenues.	
Commonwealth avenue.....	112.7 acres	Arlington street to Newton line.	
Concord square.....	5,000 sq. ft. .115 acre	Between Tremont street and Columbus avenue.	
Copley square.....	28,399 sq. ft. .652 acre	Between Huntington avenue, Boylston and Dartmouth streets.	
Copp's Hill Terraces.....	.6 acre	Commercial and Charter streets.....	Mothers' and children's shelter.
Dorchester square.....	56,200 sq. ft. 1.29 acres	Between Church, Adams and Winter streets, Meeting House Hill	
Dorchester Park.....	28 acres	Dorchester avenue and Richmond street.....	One acre playground area. One ball ground. One Soccer football grounds, skating and children's corner.
Drohan square.....	10,241 sq. ft. .235 acre	Edison green, between Pond street and Dorchester avenue.	
Eaton square.....	13,280 sq. ft. 305 acre	Between Church, Adams and Bowdoin streets.	
Elm Hill park.....	6,920 sq. ft. 159 acre	Off 550 Warren street, between Intervals and Gaston streets.	
Essex square.....	930 sq. ft. .21 acre	Between Essex and Lyndeboro' streets.	
Fens.....	115 acres	Beacon street to Brookline avenue.....	Five acres of playground area. Two ball grounds. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Fern square.....	1,900 sq. ft. .044 acre	Between Franklin and Fern streets.	
Florida street.....	24,193 sq. ft. .555 acre	Between King and Ashmont streets. (Seven inclosures.)	
Fort Hill square.....	29,480 sq. ft. .677 acre	High street, near Oliver street.	
France-street circle.....	1,662 sq. ft. .038 acre	Junction Huntington avenue, Tremont and France streets.	

Franklin Park.....	527 acres		Seaver street to Morton street and Blue Hill avenue to Forest Hills street.		Thirty-six acres playground area. Twelve ball grounds. Four Soccer football grounds, tennis, golf, tobogganing, skating, shower baths and Zoological Garden.
Franklin square.....	105,205 sq. ft.		Washington, East Brookline, East Newton and James streets.		
Governor's Island.....	73 acres		Boston Harbor.....		Camping sites.
Greenwood square.....	220 sq. ft.		Junction Thatcher street and Central avenue.		
Harold square.....	966 sq. ft.		Abbotsford, Crawford and Harold streets.		
Hayes square.....	4,484 sq. ft.		Bunker Hill, Vine and Moulton streets.		
Heath square.....	2,419 sq. ft.		Old Heath, New Heath and Parker streets.		
Highland park.....	158,421 sq. ft.		Fort avenue.		
Horatio Harris park.....	3,637 acres		Walnut avenue, between Munroe and Townsend streets.		
Independence square.....	116,000 sq. ft.		Broadway, Second, M and N streets.		
Jackson square.....	279,218 sq. ft.		Chestnut Hill avenue, Union and Winship streets.		
Lincoln square.....	6.41 acres		Emerson, Fourth and M streets.		
Linwood park.....	4,300 sq. ft.		Centre and Linwood streets.		
Longwood park.....	9,510 sq. ft.		Deaconess road, Brookline avenue, Pilgrim road and Austin street.		
Madison Park.....	3,625 sq. ft.		Sterling, Marble, Warwick and Westminster streets.		
Magnolia street.....	21,000 sq. ft.		Junction Wayland, Bird and Magnolia streets.		
Marine Park and Castle Island (land, 78.2; flats, 83.2).	482 acre		Farragut road, City Point.....		Beach bathing, boating, Aquarium, tennis and swings.
Massachusetts avenue.....	2,805 acres		Between Albany street and Columbus avenue (four sections).		
Maverick square.....	3,605 sq. ft.		Sumner and Maverick streets.		
Milton square.....	.083 acre		Junction of Milton avenue and Highland street.		
Mt. Bowdoin green.....	161.40 acres		Top of Mt. Bowdoin, Bowdoin avenue.		
Oak square.....	106,500 sq. ft.		Washington and Faneuil streets.		
Oak View terrace.....	2,446 acres		Off 426 Centre street.		

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1914-15.—Concluded.

PARKS AND GARDENS.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Olmsted Park (in Brookline, 18 acres).....	180 acres	Huntington avenue and Brookline line to Prince street.	Three acres playground area. Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, boating, fishing and skating on Jamaica Pond.
Orchard Park.....	104,492 sq. ft. 2,399 acres	Chadwick, Orchard Park and Yeoman streets....	Children's wading pool and shelter.
Park square.....	2,807 sq. ft. .066 acre	Columbus avenue, Eliot and Pleasant streets.	
Peabody square.....	1,963½ sq. ft. .045 acre	Junction Dorchester avenue and Ashmont street.	
Prescott square.....	12,284 sq. ft. .282 acre	Trenton, Eagle and Prescott streets.	
Public Garden.....	1,056,300 sq. ft. 24.25 acres	Charles, Boylston, Arlington and Beacon streets.	
Putnam square.....	11,628 sq. ft. .267 acre	Putnam, White and Trenton streets.	
Richardson square.....	45,982 sq. ft. 1.056 acres	Between Pond and Cottage streets.	Outdoor floral displays and boating during summer months, skating during the winter.
Riverway (in Brookline, 16.5 acres).....	40 acres	Brookline avenue and Brookline line to Hunting-ton avenue.	
Rutland square.....	7,400 sq. ft. .17 acre	Between Tremont street and Columbus avenue.	
St. Stephen square.....	100 sq. ft. .002 acre	Corner St. Stephen and Betavia streets.	
Savin Hill Park.....	8.26 acres	Gramplan way	Tennis.
Seaver street.....	2,500 sq. ft. .056 acre	Seaver street and Blue Hill avenue.	
Soldiers' Monument lot.....	5,870 sq. ft. .135 acre	South and Centre streets.	
Sparhawk square.....	7,449 sq. ft. .171 acre	Junction Cambridge, Brighton, Murdock and Sparhawk streets.	
Spaulding square.....	6,263 sq. ft. .143 acre	Junction Freeport street and Neponset avenue.	
Strandway.....	74.31 acres	Columbia road railroad bridge to Marine Park..	Twenty-three and one half acres playground area. Five ball grounds. One Rugby and five Soccer football grounds, basket ball, tennis, skating, shower baths and children's corner. Beach bathing during summer at L Street and McKenise Beaches.

Sullivan square	56,428 sq. ft.	Main, Cambridge, Sever and Gardner streets.
Thomas Park (Telegraph Hill)	1,285 acres	Thomas Park.
Tremlett square	180,000 sq. ft.	Tremlett street, between Hooper and Waldeck streets.
Trinity Triangle	4,362 acres	Between Huntington avenue, Trinity place and St. James avenue.
Union Park	7,107 sq. ft.	Between Tremont street and Shawmut avenue.
Vose square	123 acre	Beacon street, Metropolitan and Vose avenues.
Walnut Park	5,880 sq. ft.	Between Washington street and Walnut Park.
Walham square	16,000 sq. ft.	Harrison avenue, between Union Park and Wal- tham streets.
Warren square	367 acre	Warren street, St. James and Regent streets.
Washington Park .....	.005 acre	Dale, Bainbridge and Paulding streets.
Webster square	5,736 sq. ft.	Junction Webster street and Central avenue.
Welleney Park .....	.132 acre	Welleney Park, between Melville avenue and Walker street.
West Roxbury way	3,000 sq. ft.	Walter to Centre streets, Centre street to Wash- ington street, Bellevue Hill.
Williams square .....	.069 acre	Junction Williams avenue and Prospect street.
Winthrop square	1,380 sq. ft.	Winthrop, Common and Adams streets.
Wobolt square	896,125 sq. ft.	Hyde Park avenue, Milton and Prescott streets.
Wood Island Park	220 sq. ft.	Neptune road, from Bennington street
	28,971 sq. ft.	
	.005 acre	
	150 acres	
	700 sq. ft.	
	.016 acre	
	38,450 sq. ft.	
	.883 acre	
	220 sq. ft.	
	.005 acre	
	55.6 acres	
Worcester square	16,000 sq. ft.	Between Washington street and Harrison avenue.
Storage grounds .....	.367 acre	Massachusetts avenue and Shirley street, adjoin- ing location of New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.
Greenhouse and nursery grounds	74,279 sq. ft.	Between Massachusetts avenue and East Cot- tage street, Dorchester.
Public land	1,706 acres	Corner Cambridge, Lincoln and Mansfield streets, Brighton.
	102,531 sq. ft.	
	2,364 acres	
	32,846 sq. ft.	
	.74 acre	

Ten acres playground area. Three ball grounds.
One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds.
Outdoor gymnasium, cricket, tennis, skating,
shower baths and beach bathing.

Location, Area and Equipment of Playgrounds and Gymnasias, 1914-15.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Ashmont Playground.....	2.20	Brent street, near Talbot avenue, Dorchester district.	Two ball grounds. Two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and children's corner.
Billings Field.....	11.00	La Grange and Bellevue streets, near Centre street, West Roxbury district.	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and shower baths.
Carolina Avenue Playground.....	3.10	Carolina avenue, Jamaica Plain.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and children's playground.
Charlestown Playground (land, 14 acres; flats, 4 acres).....	18.00	Main and Alford streets, Charlestown district.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, two handball courts, basket ball, skating, quoit rings and running track.
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.00	Columbus avenue and Camden street, Roxbury district.	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, children's corner, boys' athletic field, skating and shower baths. Board running track in winter.
Commonwealth Playground.....	8.07	C, D and Cypher streets and Mt. Washington avenue, South Boston district.	Six ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, skating and indoor gymnasium.
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.85	Cottage street, near Maverick street, East Boston district.	Two ball grounds. Three Soccer football grounds, children's corner and skating.
Dumny Field.....	6.40	Everett street, Allston district.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds.
Factory Hill Playground.....	5.20	Town street, near Sunnyside street, Hyde Park district.	Children's playground, basket ball, two handball courts, coasting incline during winter.
Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	Fellows and Hunneman streets, Roxbury district..	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, outdoor gymnasium, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
First Street Playground.....	4.60	First and M streets, South Boston district.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, basket ball, shower baths and children's corner.
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.60	Washington and Florence streets, Roslindale, West Roxbury district.	Sixty acres playground area, eighteen ball grounds. Two Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, tennis, cricket, bowling, curling, skating, running track, speedway for horses, shower baths and children's corner.
Franklin Field.....	77.00	Talbot and Blue Hill avenues, Dorchester district,	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Gibson Playground.....	5.80	Dorchester avenue, Geneva avenue and Park street, Dorchester district.	

John Winthrop Playground.....	1.57	Dacia and Danube streets.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground, children's corner and coasting incline during winter.
Marcella Street Playground.....	5.10	Ribbie, Highland and Marcella streets, Roxbury district.	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, shower baths and children's corner. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Massachusetts Avenue Playground.....	2.76	Massachusetts avenue, near Edward Everett square, Dorchester district.	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground, skating and children's corner.
Mt. Ida Playground (Roman Park).....	11.07	Top of Mt. Ida, Meeting House Hill, Dorchester district.	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating and children's corner. Football field.
Mystic Playground.....	2.30	Chelsea street and Mystic river.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Neponset Playground.....	18.00	Neponset avenue, Dorchester district.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and one Soccer football grounds and skating.
Norfolk Street Playground.....	6.35	Norfolk street, Mattapan, Dorchester district.....	Children's corner.
North Brighton Playground.....	14.00	Western avenue, near North Harvard street, Allston, Brighton district.	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Orient Heights Playground.....	5.24	Saratoga and Boardman streets, Orient Heights, East Boston district.	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Paris Street Playground.....	1.27	Paris street, East Boston.....	Children's corner.
Parker Hill Playground.....	4.50	Reservoir lot, top of Parker Hill, Roxbury.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Parkinson Playground.....	4.50	Forest Hills street and Williams street, Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury district.	Two ball grounds. One Soccer football ground, one Rugby football ground, children's corner.
Portsmouth Street Playground.....	4.29	Portsmouth street, Brighton.....	Children's playground and basket ball, coasting incline during winter.
Prince Street Playground.....	.40	Prince and North Bennet streets, city proper.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Randolph Street Playground.....	2.80	Albany and Randolph streets, city proper.....	Children's playground.
Ripley Playground.....	.86	Truscott street, near Harvard street, Dorchester district.	Four acres playground area. Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating and children's corner.
Rogers Park.....	6.90	Lake and Foster streets, Brighton district.....	One ball ground. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and children's corner.
Roslindale Playground.....	3.80	South, Robert and South Walter streets, Roslindale, West Roxbury district.	
Rutherford Avenue Playground.....	1.10	Rutherford avenue, Washington and Union streets, Charlestown district.	

Location, Area and Equipment of Playgrounds and Gymnasias, 1914-15.—*Concluded.*

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Savin Hill Playground (8.35 acres upland; 24.35 acres flats).	32.70	Springdale and Denny streets, Savin Hill, Dorchester district.	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating and beach bathing.
Smith's Pond.....	20.08	Stony Brook Reservation, Hyde Park.....	Skating in winter.
Tyler Street Playground.....	.26	Tyler street, city proper.....	Children's corner and shelter.
Ward 19 Playground.....	2.55	Phillips street, near Tremont street, Roxbury district.....	Children's playground.
West Fifth Street Playground.....	.41	West Fifth street, between D and E street, South Boston district.....	Children's playground.
West Third Street Playground.....	.28	West Third street, corner of B street, South Boston district.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
William Eustis Playground.....	4.88	Norfolk avenue and Proctor street, Roxbury district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Wood Playground.....	3.10	Near Hallett street, Neponset, Dorchester district.	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....	.....	Bunker Hill and Lexington streets, Charlestown district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	.....	Tyler street, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 8 Gymnasium.....	.....	Blossom street, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	.....	Harrison avenue and Plympton street, city proper, Dorchester district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	.....	Columbia road, near Upham's Corner, Dorchester district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and swimming pool, 40 feet by 33 feet.
D Street Gymnasium.....	.....	D street, at Commonwealth park, South Boston district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
East Boston Gymnasium.....	.....	Paris street, East Boston district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and basket ball courts.
Cabot Street Gymnasium.....	.....	Cabot street, near Whittier street, Roxbury district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 30 feet.
Curtis Hall Gymnasium.....	.....	South street, corner Sedgwick street, Jamaica Plain district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 25 feet.
North Bennet Street Gymnasium.....	.....	North Bennet street, at playground, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Malloch's Wharf (1.15 acres upland; 2.54 acres flats).	3.69	Freeport street, near foot of Park street, Dorchester district.....	
Paul Gore Street Playground.....	.74	Northeast side Paul Gore street, between Centre street and Chestnut avenue.	

Location, Area and Equipment of Baths and Beaches, 1914-15.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Cabot Street Bath.....	In Cabot Street Bath House Building, Roxbury district.	Shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 30 feet.
Copley School Bath.....	Barllett street, between Pearl and School streets, Charlestown district.	Shower baths.
Curtis Hall Bath.....	In Curtis Hall, Jamaica Plain district.	Shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 25 feet.
Dewey Beach Bath.....	4.30	Medford street, at Charlestown Heights, Charlestown district.	Beach bathing during summer months.
Dover Street Bath.....	Dover street, near Harrison avenue, city proper.	Shower baths.
Freeport Street Bath.....	Freeport street, Dorchester district.	Beach bathing during summer months.
Girls' Latin School Bath.....	Huntington avenue, near Fens, Roxbury district.	Shower baths.
L Street Bath.....	On Strandway, Dorchester Bay, South Boston.	Beach bathing during entire year.
McKenzie Beach Bath.....	On Strandway, at head of Dorchester Bay, South Boston.	Beach bathing during summer months.
North Bennet Street Bath.....	In North Bennet Street Gymnasium.	Shower baths.
North End Beach Bath (land, 3.70 acres; flats, 3 acres).	6.70	Commercial street, at Charles river.	Beach bathing during the summer months for men, women and children.
Spring Street Bath.....	Spring street, West Roxbury, at Charles river.	River bathing during the summer months for men and boys.
Tenean Beach Bath.....	Tenean street, Dorchester district.	Beach bathing during summer months.
Wood Island Bath.....	At Wood Island Park.	Beach bathing during summer months.
Border Street Floating Bath.....	Border street, East Boston.	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Charlesbank Floating Bath.....	Charles River Basin at Charlesbank.	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Dover Street Floating Bath.....	Dover street, at Fort Point Channel, city proper.	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
East Boston Wharf.....	Condor street, corner of Meridian street, East Boston district.	Storage basin and repair shop.
Fort Point Channel Floating Bath.....	Northern avenue, city proper.	One floating bath house for men only.
Jedries Point Floating Bath.....	Jedries Point, East Boston district.	One floating bath house for men and women.
Mystic Bridge Floating Bath.....	Chelsea street at Mystic river, Charlestown district.	One floating bath house for men and women.
Warren Bridge Floating Bath.....	Warren avenue, at Charles river, Charlestown district.	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Dover Street Laundry.....		
North End Park Laundry.....		

General Exhibit of Appropriations for Land and Construction, 1914-15.

OBJECT OF APPROPRIATIONS.	Balances from 1913-14.	Revenue Received during 1914-15.	Transfers to Appropriation.	Transfers from Appropriation.	Total Credits.	Expenditures for 1914-15.	Balances Unexpended.
Public park lands.....	\$89 75	.....	.....	\$89 75	.....	.....
Bath House, North End.....	3,814 23	.....	.....	3,814 23	.....	.....	\$5,000 00
Bath House, Orient Heights.....	5,000 00	.....	.....	.....	\$5,000 00	.....
Bath House, Wood Island Beach.....	2,926 60	.....	.....	.....	2,926 60	\$2,926 60	
Boston Common and Public Garden, irrigation system, etc.	2,461 16	.....	.....	.....	2,461 16	2,461 16	
Boston Common, seats at bandstand.....	4,000 00	.....	.....	.....	4,000 00	1,101 04	2,898 96
Charlesbank, improvement.....	97 73	.....	.....	.....	97 73	.....	97 73
Charlestage West Bridge, restoration.....	2,335 12	.....	.....	.....	2,335 12	2,324 02	11 10
Charlestown Heights and Dewey Beach, improvements.	9,796 57	.....	.....	.....	9,796 57	9,132 75	663 82
Commonwealth avenue, between Arlington and Dartmouth streets.	12,419 40	.....	.....	.....	12,419 40	10,871 22	1,548 18
Commonwealth Park, sanitary, open-air gymnasium and grading.	1,470 34	.....	.....	1,470 34	.....	.....
Convenience stations, City square and at or near Park square.	16,157 69	.....	.....	.....	16,157 69	2,075 00	14,082 69
Copley square, plans.....	250 00	.....	.....	.....	250 00	250 00	
Copp's Hill Playground, shelter.....	17,279 29	.....	.....	.....	17,279 29	11,385 40	5,893 89
Fellows Street Playground, sanitary building.	967 42	.....	.....	.....	967 42	627 75	339 67
Fens, improvements.....	16,075 10	.....	.....	.....	16,075 10	14,524 78	1,550 32
Franklin Park golf links.....	10,000 00	.....	.....	.....	10,000 00	4,762 64	5,237 36
Franklin square sand gardens and gymnastic apparatus.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gymnasium, East Boston.....	14,016 32	.....	.....	.....	14,016 32	8,601 98	5,414 34
Gymnasium, Ward Building, Ward 8.....	37,905 85	.....	.....	.....	37,905 85	596 90	37,308 95

Highland Park, improvements.....	3,000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,000 00	1,980 95	1,019 05
Horticultural Building.....	27,450 00	.....	.....	.....	25,000 00	2,450 00	1,116 99	1,333 01
Improvement of small parks and squares.....	6,581 06	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,581 06	4,254 68	2,326 38
Land, Hemenway street and the Fenway.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	140,800 00	140,600 00	.....
McKenzie Beach, improvements.....	2,000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000 00	1,385 82	614 18
Orchard Park, improvements.....	15,731 47	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,731 47	4,901 80	10,829 67
Parker Hill, grading.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000 00	.....	10,000 00
Playground accommodations, Mattapan district.....	1,734 54	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,734 54	1,734 54	.....
Playground accommodations, Ward 19.....	30,830 00	.....	.....	.....	19,266 95	50,096 95	47,659 62	2,437 33
Playgrounds, completion of.....	57,183 48	.....	.....	.....	.....	57,183 48	36,743 65	20,439 83
Playgrounds, improvements.....	2,892 05	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,892 05	1,005 89	1,886 16
Playground, Hyde Park.....	25,000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,000 00	50 00	24,950 00
Playground, Mattapan.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Playground, Mt. Ida section.....	14,541 80	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,541 80	12,072 33	2,469 47
Playground, Ward 2.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,000 00	2,192 80	1,807 20
Playground, Ward 5.....	9,393 93	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,393 93	6,925 40	2,468 53
Playground, Ward 7.....	5,204 46	.....	.....	.....	289 18	5,493 64	5,493 64	.....
Prince Street Playground, sanitary building.....	858 96	.....	.....	.....	.....	858 96	729 50	129 46
Public landing, Freeport street.....	972 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	972 00	122 00	850 00
Refectory Building, Franklin Park, alterations.....	4,444 70	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,444 70	3,106 51	1,338 19
Savin Hill Beach additional land.....	17,491 00	.....	.....	.....	72 25	17,418 75	17,418 75	.....
Tonsan Beach, buildings.....	2,000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000 00	1,392 75	607 25
Tonsan Beach, property.....	10,000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000 00	50 00	9,950 00
Zoological Garden and Aquarium.....	33,369 43	.....	.....	.....	.....	33,369 43	33,266 48	102 95
	\$427,741 45	\$140,600 00	\$4,000 00	\$29,556 13	\$30,446 57	\$571,451 01	\$395,855 34	\$175,595 67

EXPENDITURES FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1914, TO JANUARY 31, 1915,
ON PARKS AND SQUARES IN EXISTENCE JANUARY 12, 1887.

*Maintained in Part by the Transfer Appropriation of \$173,478.80
from the George F. Parkman Fund Income.*

Arnold Arboretum	\$3,727 19
Belmont square	470 58
Berwick park	119 95
Blackstone square	1,138 82
Boston Common	31,993 90
Brighton square	199 91
Bromley park	59 73
Cedar square	172 95
Central square	330 50
Centre square	60 50
Charlesbank	10,719 07
City Hall grounds	117 13
City square	177 50
Concord square	169 09
Copley square	1,581 01
Eaton square	282 67
Essex square	26 00
Fens	17,283 87
Fern square	50 74
Fort Hill square	612 10
Franklin Park	56,271 31
Franklin square	1,208 87
Highland park	209 41
Horatio Harris park	359 35
Independence square.	1,089 24
Jackson square	175 56
Lincoln square	120 95
Linwood park	19 50
Longwood park	237 29
Madison Park	570 93

Carried forward \$129,555 62

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$129,555 62
Marine Park	7,711 96
Massachusetts avenue	1,497 50
Maverick square	325 36
Meeting House Hill	356 25
Mount Bowdoin	200 56
Orchard Park	584 08
Park square	41 80
Prescott square	55 74
Public Garden	16,338 08
Putnam square	119 85
Riverway	7,965 79
Rutland square	133 91
Soldiers' Monument lot	67 45
Sullivan square	409 85
Thomas Park	1,015 32
Union Park	270 70
Walnut Park	83 60
Washington Park	1,215 41
Winthrop square	528 32
Wood Island Park	10,755 33
Worcester square	271 54
Aquarium	21,617 02
Zoological Garden	70,047 87
 Total	 <u>\$271,168 91</u>

NOTE.—For itemised distribution of expense for each account see table of expenditures of maintenance.

**Cash Receipts of the Park and Recreation Department from
February 1, 1914, to January 31, 1915.**

PARK DIVISION.

For labor, suppression of gypsy and brown-tail moths	\$13,900 21	
From the Commonwealth, for moth suppression	11,752 43	
For labor, other city departments, etc.	4,956 95	
For labor on convention display, Back Bay Fens	1,500 00	
From the <i>Boston Post</i> , for howdahs	449 53	
From the Boston Common Tree Fund, income	200 00	
For use of towels and soap	1,204 05	
From coin locks, convenience stations	513 10	
From sale of sheep and wool	706 16	
From sale of junk, grass, shrubs, etc.	407 52	
For damage to fountain	23 88	
Settlement of assessment	250 00	
Rents	5,112 49	
	<hr/>	\$40,976 32

RECREATION DIVISION.

For use of bathing suits, towels, etc.	\$27,660 06	
Insurance on automobile destroyed by fire	1,000 00	
Rents	907 00	
Commission on weighing machines	313 89	
Commission on telephone stations	26 19	
Sale of junk	7 12	
	<hr/>	29,914 26
		<hr/>
		\$70,890 58
Above receipts were credited as follows:		
General revenue, city income	\$36,881 46	
Sinking fund	250 00	
Appropriation, Park and Recreation Department	33,759 12	
	<hr/>	\$70,890 58
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	Towels.	Soap.	Pool.	Cups.	Valuation Envelopes.	Suits.	Trunks, Miscel- laneous.	Total.
Cabot Street Bath.....	\$1,279 60	\$524 56	\$1,468 66	\$10 80	\$10 70	..	..	\$3,284 32
Curtis Hall Bath	562 24	156 94	2,703 55	46 35	3 30	..	..	3,472 38
D Street Gymnasium.....	423 58	162 78	..	..	..	..	..	586 36
Dover Street Bath.....	2,896 03	1,563 49	..	..	..	..	..	4,460 12
East Boston Gymnasium	847 12	397 47	..	..	15	..	..	1,244 74
L Street Bath (men).....	1 355 77	..	..	..	621 20	..	\$2,839 80	4,916 77
L Street Bath (women).....	96 74	..	..	..	14 45	\$913 10	..	1,024 29
L Street Bath (boys).....	25 60	..	..	..	1 65	55	36 20	64 00
North Bennet Street Bath.....	2,381 21	1,176 67	..	..	..	..	..	3,557 88
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....	440 09	185 79	..	..	..	..	..	626 48
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	268 94	117 28	..	..	..	..	..	386 22
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	358 48	186 46	..	..	..	..	..	544 94
Municipal Building, Ward 15.....	81 66	37 93	..	..	10	..	..	119 69
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	481 08	218 45	537 27	2 00	1 20	..	..	1,240 00
Beverly Street Floating Bath.....	46 79	..	..	..	..	46 01	43	93 23
Charlesbank Floating Bath (women)	2 22	..	..	..	..	14 60	..	16 82
Charlesbank Floating Bath (men).....	59 31	..	..	..	..	..	..	59 31
Charlesbank Gymnasium.....	14 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 00
Dewey Beach (men).....	25 88	..	..	..	75	46 49	15 89	89 01
Dewey Beach (women).....	4 08	..	..	..	..	56 85	..	60 93
Dover Street Bridge Floating Bath (men)	36 48	..	..	..	..	..	..	36 48

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1915.

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
MAIN PARK SYSTEM:									
Commonwealth avenue....	1894-1905.....	.....	\$165,059 75	\$165,059 75	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles	1.1 miles	22 acres
Fens.....	1877-1879....	\$596,254 49	2,190,240 00	2,786,494 49	116 "	4.32 "	7.04 "	1.1 miles	8 "
* Riverway.....	1890.....	457,457 53	674,296 32	1,131,753 85	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.2 "	77 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890-1892....	1,081,947 60	754,373 59	1,836,321 19	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.6 "	0.6 acre
Arborway.....	1892.....	245,584 25	381,793 81	627,378 06	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "	.....
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882-1895....	79,354 15	388,372 84	467,726 99	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....	.....
West Roxbury Parkway....	1894.....	135,265 29	22,123 21	157,388 50	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "	.....
Franklin Park and Zoological Garden.....	1883-1884....	1,551,896 63	2,746,114 23	4,298,010 86	527 "	7.91 "	14.9 "	1 mile	7.4 acres
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:									
Columbia road.....	1899.....	447,528 63	540,511 93	988,040 56	{ 109 " land 187.5 " flats }	4.2 "	4.5 "	.....	3.4 "
Dorchesterway	1892.....	63,735 54	65,187 12	128,922 66					
Strandway	{ 1890-1892. 1897-1901 }	772,515 12	415,932 21	1,188,447 33	{ 52.5 " land 4.9 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.39 "	.....	.....
Marine Park and Aquarium,	1893.....	232,972 57	1,217,477 25	1,450,449 82	{ 25.7 " land 78.3 " flats }	42.73 miles	61.48 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
† Castle Island.....	1890.....	.....	39,890 91	39,890 91	.....			
Carried forward.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$9,601,373 17	\$15,265,884 97	1,842.6 acres	42.73 miles	61.48 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1915.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rivers.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$5,664,511 80	\$9,601,373 17	\$15,265,884 97	1,842.6 acres	42.73 miles	61.48 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
† Governor's Island.....	1911.....	.....	20,000 00	20,000 00	73 "	.....	1.95 "	.....	.....
SAVIN HILL BEACH PLAY- GROUND.....	1899.....	44,441 05	11,283 36	55,704 41	{ 8.35 " land 24.35 " flats	.....	.....	.....	.....
SAVIN HILL PARK.....	1909.....	31,925 55	9,074 45	41,000 00	8.26 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1882-1891.....	132,800 00	275,346 93	408,146 93	{ 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats	0.3 "	2.1 "	.....	.....
CHARLESBANK.....	1883.....	373,916 99	339,550 40	713,467 39	10 "	.....	1.5 "	.....	.....
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885.....	30,000 00	.....	30,000 00	0.12 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS, DEWEY BEACH.....	1891.....	50,538 02	153,553 74	204,091 76	{ 6.1 " land 4.3 " flats	.....	0.4 mile	.....	.....
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.....	1891.....	172,923 31	32,931 93	205,855 24	{ 14 " land 4 " flats	.....	0.6 "	.....	.....
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891-1903.....	64,165 37	16,311 18	80,476 55	26 "	.....	.....	.....	.....
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892.....	157,341 22	194,228 38	351,569 60	77 "	0.65 mile	1.09 miles	.....	.....
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893.....	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 3 " flats	.....	.....	.....	.....
COPP'S HILL TERRACE.....	1893.....	90,558 19	43,222 17	134,080 36	.....	.....	0.11 mile	.....	.....
COPP'S HILL PLAYGROUND AND SHELTER.....	.....	.....	11,395 40	11,395 40	0.6 acre	.....	.....	.....	.....
‡ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898-1899 and 1903 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles	.....	.....	.....

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1915.—Continued.

Parks.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>.....	.....	\$7,609,300 21	\$10,944,679 97	\$18,553,980 18	2,374.33 acres	45.08 miles	69.23 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
PLAYGROUNDS, IMPROVEMENTS.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
PLAYGROUND, HYDE PARK.....	.....	.....	1,005 89	1,005 89					
PLAYGROUND, MT. IDA SECTION.....	.....	.....	50 00	50 00					
1912.....	1912	97,463 18	1,776 63	98,239 81	11.07 "				
PLAYGROUND, WARD 2.....	.....	975 25	1,217 55	2,192 80					
1912.....	1912	77,531 47	7,068 58	84,600 05	1.07 "				
PLAYGROUND, WARD 5.....	.....	.....	5,493 64	5,493 64					
1912.....	1912	.....	.....	.....		
PLAYGROUND, WARD 7.....	.....	.....	8,304 61	188,779 31	0.4 acre				
PRINCE STREET PLAYGROUND, SANITARY.....	{ 1897-1899... } { 1901..... }	180,474 70	.....	.....			
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAYGROUND.....	1894.....	22,107 12	30,802 77	52,909 89	14 acres				
NEPONSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896.....	24,804 39	26,189 35	50,993 74	18 "				
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896.....	47,068 98	24,367 53	71,436 51	11 "				
1 FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND,.....	1897.....	.....	30,840 40	30,840 40	4.6 "		0.4 "		
1 SPAULDING SQUARE.....	1897.....	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	0.14 acre				
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897.....	50,125 00	30,515 54	80,640 54	2.3 acres				
1 FELLOWS STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1897.....	14,503 72	11,065 22	25,568 94	0.85 acre				

CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897.....	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres				
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{1899-1900...} {1901-1902...}	327,603 84	37,479 58	364,983 42	5 "				
ASEMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899.....	43,990 09	9,000 00	52,990 09	2.2 "				
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND.....	1899.....	26,125 11	14,005 71	40,130 82	3.8 "				
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND.....	1902.....	25,166 75	15,000 00	40,166 75	9.6 "				
COTTAGE STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1902.....	47,002 32	8,747 68	55,750 00	3.85 "				
RANDOLPH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903.....	258,440 63	27,302 32	283,742 95	2.8 "				
MARCELLA STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1903-1905.....		35,155 28	35,155 28	5.1 "				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899.....	30,000 00	5,353 11	35,353 11	6.9 "				
BENNETT SQUARE.....	1901.....		294 70	294 70	1.3 "				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902.....		1,279 89	1,279 89	0.22 acre				
CAMBRIDGE, LINCOLN AND MANFIELD STREETS.....	1910.....				0.32 "				
COMMONWEALTH PLAY- GROUND.....	1905.....		8,633 91	8,633 91	8.07 acres				
ORIENT HEIGHTS PLAY- GROUND.....	{1909.....	10,015 00	26,124 02	36,139 02	{ 5.24 " land 3.07 " flats				
WEST THIRD STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909.....	10,201 30	4,000 00	14,201 30	0.28 acre				
WEST FIFTH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1909.....	10,201 30	4,597 40	14,798 70	0.41 "				
Carried forward.....		\$8,952,709 94	\$11,330,394 03	\$20,283,103 97	2,501.72 acres	45.08 miles	69.63 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1915.—Concluded.

Parks.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>		\$8,952,709 94	\$11,330,304 03	\$20,283,103 97	2,501.72 acres	45.08 miles	69.63 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
WILLIAM EUSTIS PLAYGROUND.	1909.	68,187 06	24,477 49	92,664 55	4.88 acres				
JOHN WINTHROP PLAYGROUND.	1911.	20,994 26	13,682 97	34,677 23	1.57 *				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.		285 29		285 29					
* MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PLAYGROUND.	1912.		1,500 00	1,500 00	2.76 *				
NORFOLK STREET PLAYGROUND.	1912.	22,011 33	26,106 41	48,117 74	6.34 *				
PARKINSON PLAYGROUND.	1912.		1,565 00	1,565 00	4.5 *				
PARIS STREET PLAYGROUND.	1912.	50,630 64	4,988 50	55,619 14	1.27 *				
TYLER STREET PLAYGROUND.	1912.	26,239 19	10,387 81	36,627 00	0.26 acre				
CAROLINA AVENUE PLAYGROUND.	1912.	25,477 60	1,972 78	27,450 38	3.08 acres				
PORTSMOUTH STREET PLAYGROUND.	1912.	15,000 00	5,547 87	20,547 87	4.29 *				
* PARKER HILL PLAYGROUND.	1912.				4.5 *				1.6 *
* WHARF PROPERTY, FREEPORT STREET, DORCHESTER.	1912.		28 00	28 00	1.15 * land 2.54 * flats				
* FACTORY HILL PLAYGROUND.	1912.				5.2 *				

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1915.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Assess- ments.	Collected.	Outstand- ing Jan. 31, 1913.
Public Park, Back Bay...	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor..	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River..	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury..	154,107 00	113,808 00	40,299 00	31,913 00	8,386 00
" Dorchester.....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	\$926,753 00	\$529,696 98	\$397,056 02	\$383,694 30	\$13,361 72

Public Park and Playground Debt.*Liabilities.*

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1915 **\$14,458,160 98**

Resources.

Sinking fund January 31, 1915 **8,198,958 68**

Net debt January 31, 1915 **\$6,259,202 30**

Beaches, Swimming Pools and Floating Baths Attendance, 1914-15.

	Men.	Boys.	Pool.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Border Street Floating Bath.....	3,451	41,235	.....	7,860	13,856	66,402
Cabot Street Swimming Pool.....	.....	.....	22,793	.....	.....	22,793
Charlesbank Floating Bath.....	2,950	39,020	.....	18,754	44,793	105,517
Curtis Hall Swimming Pool.....	.....	.....	39,319	.....	.....	39,319
Dewey Beach.....	10,765	41,615	.....	13,040	28,430	93,850
Dover Street Bridge Floating Bath,	3,778	36,700	.....	4,154	18,039	62,671
Fort Point Channel Floating Bath,	5,701	21,680	.....	.....	.....	27,381
Freeport Street Beach.....	7,375	27,700	.....	5,485	17,840	58,400
Jeffries Point Floating Bath.....	.....	9,539	.....	744	6,114	16,397
L Street Beach.....	229,710	164,815	.....	33,970	83,310	511,805
McKenzie Beach.....	17,566	45,329	.....	19,158	39,972	122,015
North End Park Beach.....	5,279	166,050	.....	7,834	63,460	242,623
Savin Hill Beach.....	37,313	27,468	.....	24,139	23,591	112,511
Tanean Beach.....	14,862	32,523	.....	8,326	25,812	81,523
Ward 16 Swimming Pool.....	.....	.....	6,787	.....	.....	6,787
Warren Bridge Floating Bath.....	13,400	45,475	.....	14,170	34,075	107,120
Wood Island Park Beach.....	9,737	25,649	.....	12,460	20,640	68,486
Totals.....	361,877	724,798	68,899	170,094	419,932	1,745,600

Shower Baths Attendance, 1914-15.

	Men.	Boys.	Pool.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Dover Street Bath.....	168,944	14,113	.....	42,479	17,315	232,851
D Street Bath.....	31,313	11,839	.....	2,687	5,819	51,658
Cabot Street Bath.....	67,732	30,318	.....	15,986	10,804	124,840
Copley School Bath *.....	1,100	365	.....	320	220	2,005
Curtis Hall Bath.....	33,175	48,840	.....	14,455	17,414	113,884
East Boston Bath.....	75,036	21,048	.....	14,138	14,185	124,407
North Bennet Street Bath.....	153,581	18,644	.....	38,800	17,501	228,526
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....	45,689	24,895	.....	8,661	11,081	90,326
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	26,320	5,121	.....	4,261	3,648	39,350
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	20,846	2,957	.....	2,167	1,472	27,442
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	38,518	21,784	.....	9,672	8,028	78,002
	652,254	199,924	.....	153,626	107,487	1,113,291
Municipal Building, Ward 15.....	7,212	2,195	.....	3,360	2,765	15,532
	659,466	202,119	.....	156,986	110,252	1,128,823

* Discontinued March 9, 1914.

Gymnasia — Class and Individual Attendance, 1914-15.

	Indi- viduals.	Men.	School Boys.	Working Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Mothers.	Total
Cabot Street Gymnasium.....	5,715	5,307	7,416	3,636	2,631	4,203	659	29,38
North Bennet Street Gymnasium,	3,241	3,302	7,310	1,019	1,298	2,442	954	19,38
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	6,510	10,045	6,435	9,029	6,618	7,138	3,946	49,73
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	1,423	2,175	3,852	1,413	1,870	2,309		13,04
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	1,683	2,210	5,306	973	921	3,257	645	14,90
East Boston Gymnasium.....	3,341	6,003	7,077	5,589	2,457	7,431	286	32,10
D Street Gymnasium.....	3,884	5,834	4,813	3,578	293	3,193	145	21,74
Curtis Hall Gymnasium.....	3,030	4,135	7,355	5,205	5,475	5,650	2,565	33,43
Ward 8 Gymnasium.....	3,279	2,160	3,450	1,775	1,846	4,437	765	17,70
	32,106	41,171	53,012	32,217	23,409	40,060	9,965	231,94

Skating and Toboggan Attendance, 1914-15.

	Days.	Total Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Ashmont Playground.....	10	4,380	438
Billings Field.....	15	11,265	751
Charlestown Playground.....	9	4,900	545
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	15	11,400	760
Commonwealth Park.....	7	2,450	350
Cottage Street Playground.....	9	3,600	400
Charlesbank.....	1	1,400	1,400
First Street Playground.....	9	4,104	456
Franklin Field.....	13	82,010	4,770
Gibson Street Playground.....	15	11,745	783
Jamaica Pond.....	9	59,500	8,500
Neponset Playground.....	10	8,500	850
North Brighton Playground.....	14	13,300	950
Randolph Street Playground.....	15	4,335	289
Savin Hill Playground.....	13	11,102	854
Strandway.....	11	26,246	2,386
Wood Island.....	15	100,545	6,703
William Eustis Playground.....	15	11,700	780
Orient Heights.....	10	3,600	360
Mystic Playground.....	5	1,100	220
Totals.....	220	377,182	32,545
Franklin Park Toboggan.....	17	11,200	658+

Report for the baseball season, which includes only Saturday afternoons and holidays, for 1914-15.

PLAYGROUNDS.	Number of Diamonds.	Number of Permits Issued.	Number of Players.
Ashmont.....	2	30	600
Billings Field.....	4	42	840
Charlestown.....	3	64	1,280
Columbus Avenue.....	3	77	1,540
Christopher Gibson.....	3	62	1,240
Commonwealth Park.....	5	69	1,380
Chestnut Hill.....	3	40	800
Cottage Street.....	2	37	740
Dorchester Park.....	1		
Franklin Field.....	18	336	6,720
First Street.....	1	32	640
Fenway.....	2	14	280
Forest Hills.....	4	82	1,640
Marcella Street.....	3	66	1,320
Mystic.....	1	22	440
Neponset.....	2	36	720
North Brighton.....	4	51	1,020
North End Park.....	2	30	600
Norfolk Street.....	2	18	360
Olmsted Park.....	2	20	400
Randolph Street.....	2	45	900
Rogers Park.....	3	35	700
Roslindale.....	1	20	400
Strandway.....	5	84	1,680
Savin Hill.....	3	54	1,080
William Eustis.....	3	49	980
Wood Island.....	3	66	1,320
Orient Heights.....	2	27	540
Totals.....	89	1,508	30,160

Each permit is figured as two teams and two substitutes, making twenty.

Playgrounds.

TOTAL ANNUAL ATTENDANCE 1914-15.

Ashmont Playground	120,327
Billings Field Playground	94,211
Charlestown Playground	326,600
Charlesbank Gymnasium (women's)	443,523
Charlesbank Gymnasium (men's)	145,000
Chestnut Hill Playground	16,000
Columbus Avenue Playground	225,428
Commonwealth Playground	109,290
Cottage Street Playground	80,839
Dummy Field Playground	3,270
Gibson Street Playground	120,532
First Street Playground	223,747
Forest Hills Playground	111,536
Franklin Field Playground	196,326
Marcella Street Playground	279,242
Mystic Playground	50,940
Neponset Playground	111,385
North Brighton Playground	160,331
Orient Heights Playground	55,525
Portsmouth Playground	1,333
Prince Street Playground	280,350
Randolph Street Playground	88,899
Rogers Park Playground	6,505
Roslindale Playground	122,811
Savin Hill Playground	239,695
Strandway Playground	250,358
West Third Street Playground	84,582
West Fifth Street Playground	54,020
William Eustis Playground	250,029
Wood Island Park Playground	188,645
Ronan Park Playground	245,897
	<hr/>
	4,687,176
Aquarium	1,021,602





City of Boston
PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FOURTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1916



PRINTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT

1916

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office for National Statistics 2000). The number of people aged 85 and over has increased from 1.5 million to 2.5 million in the same period.

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people in the UK. The Department of Health (2000) has published a strategy for older people, which sets out a vision for a society in which older people are able to live well, and to contribute to society. The strategy also sets out a number of key objectives, including: to improve the health and well-being of older people; to support older people to live independently; and to ensure that older people are able to participate in society.

One of the key challenges facing the UK in the 21st century is how to meet the needs of older people. The Department of Health (2000) has identified a number of key areas for action, including: to improve the health and well-being of older people; to support older people to live independently; and to ensure that older people are able to participate in society. This paper will discuss the need to address the needs of older people in the UK, and will explore some of the key challenges facing the UK in the 21st century.

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City of Boston
PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1916



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1916

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PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

HON. JAMES M. CURLEY,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

DEAR SIR,— In compliance with the Revised Ordinances the Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners herewith presents the annual report for the year 1915-16.

JOHN H. DILLON, *Chairman.*
CHARLES GIBSON.
THOMAS F. GALVIN.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

TO JOHN H. DILLON, CHARLES GIBSON AND THOMAS
F. GALVIN, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— I beg to submit herein a report of the activities of this department for the year ending January 31, 1916.

The all-important need of the department at the beginning of the past year was to place the surface of the drives in such condition as would stand the ever-increasing traffic, and the consequent damage to the roads which is more noticeable to those frequenting park drives for pleasure than those using public streets in the ordinary course of travel.

To this end two important contracts were made. First, Columbia road was resurfaced with bitulithic pavement, from Franklin Park to Edward Everett square.

This, being one of the main arteries to Boston from the south, is subject to very heavy automobile travel, and as no great amount of repair work had been done on this drive since it was built in the year 1898, the surface was in very poor condition. After one season's wear it would appear as though this type of road construction would be most suitable for drives where the auto traffic is exceptionally great, the cost of this work being \$46,385.97.

The second contract was for Commonwealth avenue on the west side, from Beacon street to Cottage Farm Bridge. As the traffic here is mixed, that is, heavy team and automobile, it was decided to use wood blocks, that being next to granite blocks the most durable. Its

advantage over the latter named pavement is that it is less noisy and not so dusty.

This pavement has a concrete base and should endure for many years; the contract price was \$62,406.42.

In addition to the above, the department force resurfaced Audubon road, from Agassiz Bridge to the Fens Bridge, a distance of about 2,000 linear feet, with tar macadam. A surface treatment of tar was also applied to the other drives in the Fens, and the drives in Franklin Park were treated with a coat of heavy asphaltic oil and sand. Similar treatment was given the Strandway drive, from Edward Everett square to Marine Park.

The main parkway, from Franklin Park to the Riverway, was treated with a thin coat of Tarvia B and sand.

The needed repairs were made on Commonwealth avenue, from Brighton avenue to the Newton line. This is a surface tar treatment, and the repairs were made with the same material.

During the winter months, in order to provide work for the needy unemployed, grading of Ronan Park was started and work on the leveling of the proposed playground on Parker Hill was begun. At Marine Park a balustrade was erected from the Head House to Castle Island Bridge. This was flanked on the land side by a granolithic walk, 20 feet in width, and a planting space 10 feet wide.

The contract price for the granolithic walk and the erection of the balustrade was \$6,438.99. All material for the balustrade was made up at Franklin Park Service Yard by the department force of concrete workers. At Marine Park also the subgrading of the drive was nearly finished to connect Marine Park with Farragut road along the harbor front. The grounds about the Aquarium were loamed and graded and they were further enhanced by the addition of a rustic

foundation and artistic planting of hardy shrubs on the slope and garden plots in the lower ground.

The Fens was improved by grading the large meadow opposite the Art Museum and Simmons College and the planting of rhododendrons, kalmias and other broad-leaved evergreens on the steep bank south of the Richardson Bridge, opposite the John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial.

A large number of English elms were planted on Broadway, South Boston, for which tree pits had to be excavated and loamed.

At the Franklin Field Speedway a reinforced concrete stand was erected, the contract price being \$3,368.

Highland park was improved by grading, seeding, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES B. SHEA,
Deputy Commissioner.

REPORT OF PHYSICAL DIRECTOR.

TO JOHN H. DILLON, CHARLES GIBSON AND THOMAS F. GALVIN, *Commissioners*:

GENTLEMEN,— Any résumé of the work and conditions which come under my supervision as physical director must necessarily resemble other reports which I have submitted in former years, since the salient points of the routine activities are of a fixed character, and therefore, except locally or temporarily, do not depart from the tested methods which I outlined for my instructors several years ago.

Some slight modifications, as I have said, have been introduced to meet local or temporary conditions, such as the demand for the motions and rhythm of the modern form of dancing. This was introduced in a modified form in that portion of the class work for women and girls which embraces dancing. Previous to the last few years this part of the class work included only folk and æsthetic dancing.

One fact is worth repeating, as each year its truth is gratifyingly evident and universally conceded, and that is that Boston is still in the lead along the lines on which this department of the public service is moving, and this notwithstanding the large efforts that have been made by other cities in parallel directions.

The department now has ten gymnasia as against nine last year, with a total weekly attendance varying from six thousand to ten thousand per week. Of this number about 60 per cent are children or minors and 40 per cent adults.

That there is a strong attraction is proven by the

fact that a great number of the regular attendants of each succeeding year is composed of the same people. I have noted this particularly at Columbia Road, now in its thirteenth year of existence, in the morning and evening women's classes. We have the same class leader in both that we had in 1904, and there are about twenty-five other members who have also been nearly as regular in their attendance.

We have now definitely arrived at the point in the direction of children where we know that the habits of bathing and taking exercise which they acquire in their early years of spontaneous attendance at our public gymnasia clings to them in after years, and frequently it is found that the regular and interested patron of the adult class is the grown-up juvenile member of former years.

Much has been done at the various institutions in the last few years to foster the interest of the child. Social days to which the mothers and teachers are invited are held frequently everywhere. At Christmastime trees laden with inexpensive and useful gifts and some immediately appreciable eatables were given at every gymnasium except Columbia Road and Curtis Hall, where the character of the constituency, adult and juvenile, is of a different caliber, because the locality wherein they are situated is of the well-to-do residential order. The expenses of these Yuletide festivities were in each case borne by the employees of the respective institutions.

Visitors' day, on the first Monday and Tuesday of each month, to which the public generally and friends and parents of the members are invited, has gathered quite a lively interest into itself in many of the gymnasia.

Vine Street, Ward 17, this year opened its doors and possibilities to a locality which had had no public agency of this character heretofore. The response was large,

gratifyingly large, but not great enough, I think. The people of this district have not fully awakened to the immense advantages and benefits which we have placed at their disposal, though the nearness of Columbia Road and Cabot Street would partially account for any seeming deficiency of response.

A new building in Ward 7 replaced an old, poorly lighted and ventilated building and one impossible to heat. The response to the stimulus of new and attractive quarters was regulated by the character of the population in that vicinity. The children's classes are limited only by the capacity of the gymnasium; the men's classes also are large, but the ladies' classes, as at North Bennet Street, are poorly attended, because the population in both sections is mostly foreign,— poor, hard-working people, where the mother in the home is the hardest worked member of all, and consequently has little or no time for self-improvement or recreation.

The instructors this year, instead of teaching athletics on the playgrounds during the summer, were at the various beaches teaching swimming and life-saving and doing life-guard duty.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES L. WALSH,
Physical Director.

REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF BATHS.

*To the Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners,
City of Boston:*

DEAR SIRs,— I beg to submit herewith my annual report of the activities and work accomplished in the Recreation Division of this department for the year 1915-16.

The number of varied industries embraced in the Recreation Division of this department continues to invite the praise as well as imitation by other cities of the country. With our nine beaches, eight floating baths and ten indoor gymnasia, in addition to our tennis courts, baseball fields, soccer and rugby inclosures, running tracks, outdoor gymnasia, bowling greens, speedway, toboggan slides and other activities, we can safely say that this city can compare favorably with any other large city of the country. The continued interest manifested by the patrons engaged in these various pursuits justify their maintenance throughout the entire year.

We in Boston are favorably endowed by nature in a manner that permits us to give more and better facilities than perhaps any other city in the country. Our coast line permits us to give bathing opportunities not approached by any other municipality, and the widely scattered playground facilities and indoor gymnasia enable us to cater to the wants of the people in practically every section of the city. The vast amount of

good done and the healthful opportunities offered by us can really not be measured by any gauge. I think twelve months' recreative and health giving activities is one of the chief cardinal principles in any recreation field of endeavor.

Our gymnasias have been extensively patronized by young and old alike, of both sexes. Our swimming pools have done much to give to all an opportunity to learn to swim, which is one of the chief assets of life. Our playgrounds have been thronged with devotees of the different activities thereon offered at the various seasons of the year, so that we may safely assert that in variety and number we are unexcelled in this respect. Our bathing beaches continue to excite the admiration of critics from every city by reason of their large number, their facilities and their widely scattered locations. Outside the fact that over 2,000,000 used our beaches during the past year, we can point with justifiable pride to the remarkably small number of accidents that occurred.

Our indoor gymnasias still continue to be the Mecca for candidates for the Police and Fire Departments of the city, who are tutored by instructors along the civil service requirements. This work has lead to the statement by the medical examiner of the Civil Service Commission that the physique of the Fire and Police Departments of the city measured up, on this account, with that of any other city in the country.

Our golf courses at Franklin Park have been extended, new putting greens laid out and an irrigation system installed, so that greens can be watered when necessary. The six-hole course for beginners has done much to relieve the excessive congestion on the nine-hole course for the more adept, but even now they are not large enough to cater to the demands made upon them.

The bowling greens on Franklin Field daily witness gatherings of the patrons of this popular sport, both from our own and other cities, and are a distinct feature of our recreative life.

The three toboggan slides on Schoolmaster's Hill in Franklin Park on afternoons and evenings when the weather permits are daily thronged with those who like to engage in this exhilarating sport. Over 300 toboggans were checked during the past season in addition to many transient patrons who used the course, indicating the popularity of the sport.

Where possible, in every section of the city skating areas have been provided on our playgrounds, and nothing contributes more to the health and pleasure of the people than this popular winter pastime.

The ever-increasing popularity of tennis has made necessary the construction of tennis courts on different playgrounds where the surface would allow it. At present about 100 tennis courts are scattered throughout the city.

A new feature has been added to our recreation by the laying out on Franklin Park of a cross country course, which has been used by the I. C. A. A. A. and the New England I. C. A. A. for their annual cross country championships. The local Amateur Athletic Association also hold their cross country championship run over these fields, and the course both as regards its topography and the manner in which it was laid out, enabling spectators to see the contestants at the same point on several occasions during the course of their run, is admirable. The Press of other cities has also commented favorably upon this course.

The opening of the new Ward 17 building and the new Ward 15 building have done much to alleviate the needs of the people of Roxbury and South Boston in the way of gymnasium work and public bathing.

I feel that Boston, the pioneer in playgrounds, gymnasium and swimming pool endeavors, should continue to hold its place among the leading cities of the country in this work, for no money expended in any department of the city has a more salutary effect on the people than these activities, which are under our supervision.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH C. McGRATH,
General Superintendent of Baths.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.

COST OF MAINTENANCE PER ACRE, 1906 TO 1915, INCLUSIVE.

	Area in Acres.	Cost per Acre.									
		1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1912.	1914.	1915.
Adams street.....	.02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$2,896 00	\$1,355 00	\$2,488 00
Algonquin square.....	.04	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,919 00	1,468 00	3,338 00
Alvah Kittredge park.....	.13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	987 00	452 00	750 00
Arboretum.....	36.00	\$300 00	\$363 00	\$359 00	\$224 00	\$211 00	\$214 00	\$204 00	176 00	92 00	153 00
* 223.00	33 00	31 00	31 00	18 00	15 00	14 00	16 00	19 00	22 00	17 00	13 00
Ashmont Playground.....	2.20	439 00	422 00	332 00	341 00	805 00	948 00	105 00	970 00	774 00	715 00
Belmont square.....	.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	560 00	672 00	595 00
Berners square.....	1.30	.....	.....	10 00	7 00	45 00	18 00	13 00	48 00	6 00	.....
Beviak park.....	.08	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,574 00	150 00	1,333 00
Billings Field Playground.....	11.00	92 00	112 00	77 00	139 00	157 00	238 00	268 00	277 00	160 00	195 00
Blackstone square.....	2.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	398 00	475 00	335 00
Boston Common.....	48.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	643 00	661 00	524 00
Brighton square.....	.60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	526 00	331 00	402 00
Bromley Park.....	.48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	441 00	124 00	470 00
Camp Meigs.....	2.81	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	126 00	95 00	125 00
Carolina Avenue Playground †.....	8.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 00	269 00	314 00
Carruth square.....	.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,023 00	716 00	1,335 00

Cedar square.....	.60																	407 00	288 00	274 00
Central square.....	.90																	520 00	387 00	438 00
Centre square.....	.07																	612 00	864 00	657 00
Charlebank.....	10.00	959 00	1,161 00	1,479 00	1,485 00	1,453 00	1,623 00	1,574 00										1,636 00	1,072 00	1,116 00
Charlestown Heights.....	6.10	489 00	579 00	605 00	619 00	542 00	562 00	539 00										576 00	497 00	558 00
Charlestown Playground.....	14.00	127 00	110 00	109 00	159 00	230 00	268 00	286 00										498 00	220 00	209 00
Chestnut Hill Park.....	55.40	113 00	119 00	108 00	112 00	121 00	131 00	146 00										99 00	52 00	51 00
City Hall grounds.....	.20																	1,398 00	586 00	573 00
City square.....	.20																	890 00	588 00	1,229 00
Columbia road.....	31.20	295 00	276 00	173 00	217 00	256 00	234 00	204 00										213 00	152 00	160 00
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.00	459 00	333 00	394 00	306 00	664 00	836 00	1,622 00										1,156 00	713 00	574 00
Columbus square.....	.61																	123 00	245 00	104 00
Commonwealth avenue †.....	112.70	553 00	376 00	463 00	507 00	328 00	359 00	809 00										613 00	262 00	756 00
Commonwealth Avenue Playground.....	8.10	71 00	59 00	119 00	145 00	133 00	180 00	239 00										226 00	146 00	183 00
Concord square.....	.10																	1,607 00	1,691 00	1,849 00
Copley square ‡.....	.80																	99 00	1,976 00	311 00
Copp's Hill Terrace Playground.....	.60	776 00	1,498 00	1,260 00	990 00	1,210 00	1,067 00	1,312 00										919 00	122 00	206 00
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.80	193 00	337 00	313 00	534 00	655 00	535 00	538 00										770 00	433 00	452 00
Dorchester Park.....	26.00	69 00	67 00	79 00	58 00	82 00	100 00	169 00										122 00	41 00	28 00
Drohan square.....	.24																	531 00	339 00	312 00
Dummy Field Playground †.....	6.40																	83 00		

* Of this area only the roads and walks (16.8 acres) are maintained by the city.

† At the end of 1906, 82.7 acres were added by the placing of that portion of Commonwealth avenue west of Brookline avenue and extending to the Newton city line under the care of the Park Department.

‡ Unimproved.

§ Includes Trinity triangle.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS—Continued.

	Area in Acres.	Cost per Acre.									
		1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Eaton square.....	.30								\$142 00	\$942 00	\$1,239 00
Elm Hill Park.....	.16								1,479 00	1,231 00	1,179 00
Essex square.....	.02								172 00	1,300 00	2,105 00
Factory Hill Playground *	5.20								4 00	8 00	.....
Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	\$1,122 00	\$1,184 00	\$1,251 00	\$259 00	\$84 00	\$476 00	\$579 00	2,670 00	2,324 00	2,695 00
Fens.....	115.00	169 00	170 00	143 00	121 00	256 00	145 00	150 00	209 00	151 00	132 00
Fern square.....	.04								236 00	1,268 00	994 00
First Street Playground.....	4.60	519 00	677 00	708 00	810 00	900 00	988 00	963 00	832 00	668 00	569 00
Florida street.....	.14								517 00	1,516 00	1,468 00
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.80	59 00	29 00	76 00	26 00	68 00	56 00	146 00	259 00	154 00	190 00
Fort Hill square.....	.68								953 00	900 00	743 00
Frances street.....	.04								90 00	819 00	1,426 00
Franklin Field.....	77.00	92 00	112 00	95 00	87 00	110 00	144 00	184 00	261 00	189 00	175 00
Franklin Park.....	527.00	106 00	139 00	114 00	136 00	129 00	121 00	137 00	148 00	107 00	89 00
Franklin square.....	2.50								484 00	484 00	348 00
Gibson Street Playground.....	5.80	279 00	261 00	279 00	280 00	258 00	302 00	403 00	610 00	431 00	402 00
Governor's Island.....	73.00							21 00	65 00	13 00	25
Greenwood square.....	.006								24,042 00	23,140 00	26,050 00

Harold square.....	.02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,760 00	890 00	2,562 00
Hayes square.....	.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	686 00	870 00	1,300 00
Heath square.....	.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	365 00	216 00	731 00
Highland Park.....	2.60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59 00	81 00	106 00
Horatio Harris square.....	2.66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	159 00	135 00	158 00
Independence square.....	6.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	203 00	168 00	128 00
Jackson square.....	.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,897 00	1,756 00	1,110 00
John Winthrop Playground.....	1.60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 00	667 00	327 00	481 00
Lincoln square.....	.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	898 00	605 00	1,091 00
Linwood Park.....	.08	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	318 00	244 00	763 00
Longwood Park.....	.48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	450 00	494 00	559 00
Madison Park.....	2.80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	379 00	204 00	294 00
Magnolia street.....	.08	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	622 00	176 00	631 00
Marcella Street Playground.....	5.10	608 00	480 00	593 00	652 00	646 00	596 00	806 00	926 00	849 00	615 00
Marine Park †.....	52.50	174 00	231 00	227 00	223 00	234 00	200 00	222 00	247 00	147 00	592 00
Massachusetts avenue.....	2.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	530 00	599 00	467 00
Massachusetts Avenue Playground.....	3.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65 00	363 00	134 00	.....
Maverick square.....	.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	292 00	3,254 00	3,459 00
Meeting House Hill.....	1.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	375 00	274 00	271 00
Milton square.....	.005	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,496 00	4,600 00	10,000 00
Mount Bowdoin.....	.58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	337 00	346 00	473 00
Mt. Ida Playground *.....	11.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	147 00	98 00	210 00

* Unimproved.

† Includes maintenance of Castle Island shelter and piers.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADS.—Continued.

	Area in Acres.	COST PER ACRE.									
		1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Mythic Playground.....	2.30	\$497 00	\$422 00	\$630 00	\$294 00	\$544 00	\$823 00	\$959 00	\$1,049 00	\$1,183 00	\$981 00
Neponset Playground.....	18.00	75 00	77 00	87 00	67 00	75 00	72 00	97 00	74 00	54 00	60 00
Norfolk Street Playground.....	6.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	443 00	577 00
North Brighton Playground.....	14.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	395 00	458 00	194 00	156 00
Oak View terrace.....	.12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,162 00	383 00	920 00
Olmsted Park.....	190.00	150 00	166 00	137 00	143 00	148 00	137 00	235 00	137 00	89 00	77 00
Orchard Park.....	2.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	227 00	243 00	288 00
Orient Heights Playground.....	5.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	108 00	182 00	138 00	214 00
Paris Street Playground.....	1.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52 00	84 00	1,464 00	110 00
Park square.....	.07	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	145 00	597 00	504 00
Parker Hill Playground.....	4.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	171 00	196 00	91 00	110 00
Parkinson Playground.....	4.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	125 00	319 00	2 00	.....
Peabody square.....	.045	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	852 00	567 00	1,173 00
Portsmouth Street Playground.....	4.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	122 00	100 00	148 00	55 00
Prince Street Playground.....	.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,808 00	4,817 00	9,030 00	4,393 00
Public Gardens.....	24.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	923 00	667 00	653 00
Prescott square.....	.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	334 00	186 00	360 00
Putnam square.....	.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	476 00	400 00	428 00

Randolph Street Playground.....	2.80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,626 00	1,452 00	958 00	757 00
Richardson square.....	1.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	198 00	189 00	72 00
Riverway.....	40.00	427 00	460 00	322 00	536 00	349 00	769 00	290 00	260 00	199 00	201 00	201 00
Rogers Park Playground.....	6.90	220 00	246 00	132 00	228 00	286 00	309 00	216 00	310 00	157 00	208 00	208 00
Roselindale Playground.....	3.70	216 00	269 00	198 00	275 00	416 00	621 00	672 00	441 00	387 00	462 00	462 00
Rutherford Avenue Playground.....	1.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00	71 00	235 00	2,238 00	2,238 00
Rutland square.....	.17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	873 00	788 00	866 00	866 00
Savin Hill Park.....	8.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	35 00	137 00	164 00	169 00	61 00	72 00	72 00
Savin Hill Playground.....	6.90	328 00	269 00	292 00	374 00	465 00	401 00	426 00	339 00	97 00	214 00	214 00
Seaver street.....	.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,031 00	1,040 00	1,658 00	1,658 00
Soldiers Monument lot.....	.135	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	520 00	499 00	318 00	318 00
Sparhawk square.....	.17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,542 00	1,162 00	696 00	696 00
Spaulding square.....	.14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	385 00	236 00	378 00	378 00
St. Stephen square.....	.002	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34,220 00	18,300 00	23,125 00	23,125 00
Strandway.....	74.30	125 00	177 00	151 00	136 00	119 00	134 00	173 00	147 00	126 00	215 00	215 00
Sullivan square.....	1.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	388 00	315 00	278 00	278 00
Thomas Park.....	4.36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	387 00	233 00	213 00	213 00
Tremlett square.....	.16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,005 00	982 00	1,418 00	1,418 00
Tyler Street Playground.....	.26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 00	158 00	752 00	356 00	356 00
Union Park.....	.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,022 00	732 00	579 00	579 00
Voss square.....	.006	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,130 00	3,900 00	10,000 00	10,000 00
Walnut Park.....	.13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	990 00	643 00	1,107 00	1,107 00

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.	Square Yards.	COST PER SQUARE YARD.									
		1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Beacon street.	60,600	.....	\$0 218	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commonwealth avenue, Beacon street to Newton line.	203,700	.....	083	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commonwealth avenue, Arlington street to Newton line.	284,300	\$0 210	122	\$0 170	\$0 189	\$0 119	\$0 127	\$0 309	\$0 173	\$0 086	\$0 301
Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Arborway, Columbia road and Marine Park.	372,800	120	120	083	089	101	139	086	088	084	048
Franklin Park and Arnold Arboretum.....	210,100	068	068	029	033	080	031	043	038	018	018
Average.....	847,200	\$0 135	\$0 107	\$0 097	\$0 107	\$0 089	\$0 108	\$0 145	\$0 093	\$0 053	\$0 122

The above table shows the cost of maintenance of roads for the last ten years, with the average cost per annum for the same period. This includes all labor, teaming and road repairs, including resurfacing, cleaning out of catch-basins, sweeping and oiling for the suppression of dust.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1915-16.

PARKS AND GARDENS.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Adams square.....	2,068 sq. ft.	Junction of Adams and Granite streets.	
Adams street.....	.048 acre	Junction of Adams and Codman streets.	
Algonquin square.....	700 sq. ft.	Algonquin and Bradlee streets.	
Alvah Kittredge Park.....	1,728 sq. ft.	Highland street and Highland avenue.	
Arborway.....	.04 acre	Prince street to Franklin Park.	
Arnold Arboretum.....	5,600 sq. ft.	South, Centre and Walter streets.	
Belmont square.....	.129 acre	Webster, Sumner, Lamson and Seaver streets.	
Berners square.....	36 acres	Longwood avenue, Pilgrim road and Plymouth street.	
Berwick Park.....	223 acres	Off Columbus avenue, near New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.	
Blackstone square.....	.689 acre	Washington, West Brookline, West Newton streets and Shawmut avenue.	
Boston Common.....	57,200 sq. ft.	Park, Tremont, Boylston, Charles and Beacon streets.	
Brighton square.....	1.3 acres	Between Chestnut Hill avenue and Rockland street.	
Bromley park.....	3,800 sq. ft.	From Albert street to Bickford street.	
Camp Meigs.....	.087 acre	Clifford, Stanley and Irving streets.	
Carruth square.....	103,100 sq. ft.	South Conway, South Fairview and Robert streets.	
Cedar square.....	2,096,020 sq. ft.	Cedar street, between Juniper and Thornton streets.	
Central square.....	48.4 acres	Meridian and Border streets.	
Centre square.....	25,035 sq. ft.	Centre and Perkins streets.	
Charlesbank.....	20,975 sq. ft.	Charles street, from Cambridge street to Leverett street.	
Charlestown Heights.....	6.1 acres	Bunker Hill and Medford streets.	

Ball ground and children's corner. Skating during the winter.

Three and one half acres playground area. Outdoor gymnasia, basket ball, children's playground, skating, shower baths, floating baths and women's indoor gymnasium and boating. One acre children's playground.

Chestnut Hill Park (reservoir and adjacent lands, 160.66 acres).	55.4 acres	Beacon street and Commonwealth avenue, Brighton.	Four acres playground area. Three ball grounds and tennis. One Rugby football ground and one Soccer football ground.
City Hall Grounds.....	7,700 sq. ft.	School street.	
City square.....	177 acre	Head of Bow and Main streets.	
Columbia road.....	8,739 sq. ft.	Franklin Park to Marine Park.	
Public square.....	312 acres	Junction of Columbus and Warren avenues.	
Commonwealth avenue.....	2,250 sq. ft.	Arlington street to Newton line.	
Concord square.....	112.7 acres	Between Tremont street and Columbus avenue.	
Copley square.....	5,000 sq. ft.	Between Huntington avenue, Boylston and Dartmouth streets.	
Copp's Hill Terraces.....	23,399 sq. ft.	Commercial and Charter streets.....	Mothers' and children's shelter.
Dorchester square.....	56,200 sq. ft.	Between Church, Adams and Winter streets, Meeting House Hill.	One acre playground area. One ball ground.
Dorchester Park.....	1.29 acres	Dorchester avenue and Richmond street.....	One Soccer football ground, skating and children's corner.
Drohan square.....	10,241 sq. ft.	Edison green, between Pond street and Dorchester avenue.	
Eaton square.....	235 acre	Between Church, Adams and Bowdoin streets.	
Elm Hill Park.....	13,280 sq. ft.	Off 550 Warren street, between Intervale and Gaston streets.	
Essex square.....	305 acre	Between Essex and Lyndeboro' streets.	
Fens.....	6,920 sq. ft.	Beacon street to Brookline avenue.....	Five acres of playground area. Two ball grounds. One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Fern square.....	159 acre		
Florida street.....	930 sq. ft.	Between Franklin and Fern streets.	
Fort Hill square.....	.021 acre	Between King and Ashmont streets. (Seven inclosures.)	
Francis Street Circle.....	1,900 sq. ft.	High street, near Oliver street.	
Franklin Park.....	.044 acre	Junction Huntington avenue, Tremont and Francis streets.	Thirty-six acres playground area. Twelve ball grounds. Four Soccer football grounds, tennis, golf, tobogganing, skating, shower baths and Zoological Garden.
	24,193 sq. ft.	Seaver street to Morton street and Blue Hill avenue to Forest Hills street.	
	555 acre		
	20,480 sq. ft.		
	.677 acre		
	1,662 sq. ft.		
	.038 acre		
	527 acres		

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1915-16.—Continued.

PARKS AND GARDENS.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Franklin square.....	105,205 sq. ft.	Washington, East Brookline, East Newton and James streets.	Camping sites.
Governor's Island.....	2.41 acres	Boston Harbor.....	
Greenwood square.....	73 acres	Junction Thatcher street and Central avenue.	
Harold square.....	220 sq. ft.	Abbotsford, Crawford and Harold streets.	
Hayes square.....	966 sq. ft.	Bunker Hill, Vine and Moulton streets.	
Heath square.....	.022 acre	Old Heath, New Heath and Parker streets.	
Highland Park.....	4,484 sq. ft.	Fort avenue.	
Horatio Harris Park.....	2,419 sq. ft.	Walnut avenue, between Munroe and Townsend streets.	
Independence square.....	158,421 sq. ft.	Broadway, Second, M and N streets.	
Jackson square.....	3,637 acres	Chestnut Hill avenue, Union and Winship streets.	
Lincoln square.....	116,000 sq. ft.	Emerson, Fourth and M streets.	Beach bathing, boating, Aquarium, tennis and swings.
Linwood Park.....	2,663 acres	Centre and Linwood streets.	
Longwood Park.....	279,218 sq. ft.	Desconess road, Brookline avenue, Pilgrim road and Austin street.	
Madison Park.....	6.41 acres	Sterling, Marble, Warwick and Westminster streets.	
Magnolia street.....	4,300 sq. ft.	Junction Wayland, Bird and Magnolia streets.	
Marine Park and Castle Island (land, 78.2; flats, 83.2).	9,510 sq. ft.	Farragut road, City Point.....	
Massachusetts avenue.....	9,510 sq. ft.	Between Albany street and Columbus avenue (four sections).	
Maverick square.....	3,625 sq. ft.	Summer and Maverick streets.	
Milton square.....	21,000 sq. ft.	Junction of Milton avenue and Highland street.	
Mt. Bowdoin green.....	122,191 sq. ft.	Top of Mt. Bowdoin, Bowdoin avenue.	

Oak square.....	9,796 sq. ft.	Washington and Faneuil streets.	
Oakview terrace.....	.22 acre	Off 426 Centre street.	
Olmsted Park (in Brookline, 18 acres).....	5,287 sq. ft. .121 acre 180 acres	Huntington avenue and Brookline line to Prince street.	Three acres playground area. Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, boating, fishing and skating on Jamaica pond.
Orchard Park.....	104,492 sq. ft. 2,399 acres	Chadwick, Orchard Park and Yeoman streets...	Children's wading pool and shelter.
Park square.....	2,867 sq. ft. .066 acre	Columbus avenue, Eliot and Pleasant streets.	
Peabody square.....	1,963½ sq. ft. .045 acre	Junction Dorchester avenue and Ashmont street.	
Prescott square.....	12,284 sq. ft. .282 acre	Trenton, Eagle and Prescott streets.	
Public Garden.....	1,056,300 sq. ft. 24.25 acres	Charles, Boylston, Arlington and Beacon streets.	Outdoor floral displays and boating during summer months, skating during the winter.
Putnam square.....	11,628 sq. ft. .267 acre	Putnam, White and Trenton streets.	
Richardson square.....	45,982 sq. ft. 1.056 acres	Between Pond and Cottage streets.	
Riverway (in Brookline, 16.5 acres).....	40 acres	Brookline avenue and Brookline line to Huntington avenue.	
Rutland square.....	7,400 sq. ft. .17 acre	Between Tremont street and Columbus avenue.	
St. Stephen square.....	100 sq. ft. .002 acre	Corner St. Stephen and Batavia streets.	Tennis.
Savin Hill Park.....	8.26 acres	Grampian way.....	
Seaver street.....	2,500 sq. ft. .057 acre	Seaver street and Blue Hill avenue.	
Soldiers Monument lot.....	5,870 sq. ft. .135 acre	South and Centre streets.	
Sparhawk square.....	7,449 sq. ft. .171 acre	Junction Cambridge, Brighton, Murdock and Sparhawk streets.	
Spaulding square.....	6,264 sq. ft. .143 acre	Junction Freeport street and Neponset avenue.	
Strandway.....	74.31 acres	Columbia road railroad bridge to Marine Park...	Twenty-three and one-half acres playground area. Five ball grounds. One Rugby and five Soccer football grounds, basket ball, tennis, skating, shower baths and children's corner. Beach bathing during summer at L Street and McKenzie Beaches.

Location, Area and Equipment of Parks and Gardens, 1915-16.—Concluded.

PARKS AND GARDENS.	Area.	Location.	Equipment.
Sullivan square.....	56,428 sq. ft.	Main, Cambridge, Sever and Gardner streets.	
Thomas Park (Telegraph Hill).....	1,295 acres	Thomas Park.	
Tremlett square.....	190,000 sq. ft.	Tremlett street, between Hooper and Waldeck streets.	
Trinity Triangle.....	4,362 acres	Between Huntington avenue, Trinity place and St. James avenue.	
Union Park.....	7,107 sq. ft.	Between Tremont street and Shawmut avenue.	
Vose square.....	163 acre	Beacon street, Metropolitan and Vose avenues.	
Walnut Park.....	5,380 sq. ft.	Between Washington street and Walnut Park.	
Waltham square.....	123 acre	Harrison avenue, between Union Park and Waltham streets.	
Warren square.....	16,000 sq. ft.	Warren street, St. James and Regent streets.	
Washington Park.....	367 acre	Dale, Bainbridge and Paulding streets.	
Webster square.....	220 sq. ft.	Junction Webster street and Central avenue.	
Wellesley Park.....	5,736 sq. ft.	Wellesley Park, between Melville avenue and Park street.	
West Roxbury Way.....	132 acre	Walter to Centre streets, Centre street to Washington street, Bellevue Hill.	
Williams square.....	3,000 sq. ft.	Junction Williams avenue and Prospect street.	
Winthrop square.....	069 acre	Winthrop, Common and Adams streets.	
Walcott square.....	1,380 sq. ft.	Hyde Park avenue, Milton and Prescott streets.	
Wood Island Park.....	396,125 sq. ft.	Neptune road, from Bennington street.....	
	9,094 acres		
	220 sq. ft.		
	005 acre		
	28,971 sq. ft.		
	665 acre		
	150 acres		
	700 sq. ft.		
	016 acre		
	38,450 sq. ft.		
	883 acre		
	220 sq. ft.		
	.005 acre		
	55.6 acres		
			Ten acres playground area. Three ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds. Outdoor gymnasium, cricket, tennis, skating, shower baths and beach bathing.
Worcester square.....	16,000 sq. ft.	Between Washington street and Harrison avenue.	
Storage grounds.....	74,279 sq. ft.	Massachusetts avenue and Shirley street, adjoining location of New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.	
Greenhouse and nursery grounds.....	1,708 acres	Between Massachusetts avenue and East Cottage street, Dorchester.	
Public land.....	102,531 sq. ft.	Corner Cambridge, Lincoln and Mansfield streets, Brighton.	
	2,354 acres		
	32,340 sq. ft.		
	.74 acre		

Location, Area and Equipment of Playgrounds and Gymnasias, 1915-16.

NAME.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Ashmont Playground.....	2.20	Brent street, near Talbot avenue, Dorchester district.	Two ball grounds. Two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and children's corner.
Billings Field.....	11.00	La Grange and Bellevue streets, near Centre street, West Roxbury district.	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and shower baths.
Carolina Avenue Playground.....	3.10	Carolina avenue, Jamaica Plain.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground and children's playground.
Charlestown Playground (land, 14 acres; flats, 4 acres).....	18.00	Main and Alford streets, Charlestown district.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, two handball courts, basket ball skating, quirt rinks and running track.
Columbus Avenue Playground.....	5.00	Columbus avenue and Camden street, Roxbury district.	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, children's corner, boys' athletic field, skating and shower baths. Board running track in winter.
Commonwealth Playground.....	8.07	C, D and Cypher streets and Mt. Washington avenue, South Boston district.	Six ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, skating and indoor gymnasium.
Cottage Street Playground.....	3.85	Cottage street, near Maverick street, East Boston district.	Two ball grounds. Three Soccer football grounds, children's corner and skating.
Dummy Field.....	6.40	Everett street, Allston district.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds.
Factory Hill Playground.....	5.20	Town street, near Sunnyside street, Hyde Park district.	Children's playground, basket ball, two handball courts, coasting incline during winter.
Fellows Street Playground.....	.85	Fellows and Hunneman streets, Roxbury district..	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, outdoor gymnasium, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
First Street Playground.....	4.60	First and M streets, South Boston district.....	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, basket ball, shower baths and children's corner.
Forest Hills Playground.....	9.60	Washington and Florence streets, Roslindale, West Roxbury district.	Sixty acres playground area, eighteen ball grounds. Two Rugby and three Soccer football grounds, tennis, cricket, bowling, curling, skating, running track, speedway for horses, shower baths and children's corner.
Franklin Field.....	77.00	Talbot and Blue Hill avenues, Dorchester district	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Gibson Playground.....	5.80	Dorchester avenue, Geneva avenue and Park street, Dorchester district.	One Soccer football ground, children's corner.
John Winthrop Playground.....	1.57	Decis and Danube streets.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground, children's corner and coasting incline during winter.

Location, Area and Equipment of Playgrounds and Gymnasias, 1915-16.—*Concluded.*

Name.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Marcella Street Playground.....	5.10	Ritchie, Highland and Marcella streets, Roxbury district.	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, shower baths and children's corner.
Massachusetts Avenue Playground.....	2.76	Massachusetts avenue, near Edward Everett square, Dorchester district.	One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Mt. Ida Playground (Ronan Park).....	11.07	Top of Mt. Ida, Meeting House Hill, Dorchester district.	
Mystic Playground.....	2.30	Chelsea street and Mystic river.....	
Neponset Playground.....	18.00	Neponset avenue, Dorchester district.....	One ball ground. One Soccer football ground, skating and children's corner.
Norfolk Street Playground.....	6.35	Norfolk street, Mattapan, Dorchester district.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating and children's corner.
North Brighton Playground.....	14.00	Western avenue, near North Harvard street, Allston, Brighton district.	Four ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Orient Heights Playground.....	5.24	Saratoga and Boardman streets, Orient Heights, East Boston district.	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and one Soccer football ground and skating.
Paris Street Playground.....	1.27	Paris street, East Boston.	Children's corner.
Parker Hill Playground.....	4.50	Reservoir lot, top of Parker Hill, Roxbury.....	One Soccer football ground and children's corner.
Parkinson Playground.....	4.50	Forest Hills street and Williams street, Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury district.	Two ball grounds. One Soccer football ground, one Rugby football ground, children's corner.
Portsmouth Street Playground.....	4.23	Portsmouth street, Brighton.....	Children's playground and basket ball, coasting incline during winter.
Prince Street Playground.....	.40	Prince and North Bennet streets, city proper.....	Two ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
Randolph Street Playground.....	2.80	Albany and Randolph streets, city proper.....	Children's playground.
Ripley Playground.....	.86	Treacott street, near Harvard street, Dorchester district.	Four acres playground area. Two ball grounds.
Rogers Park.....	6.90	Lake and Foster streets, Brighton district.....	One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating and children's corner.
Roelindale Playground.....	3.80	South, Robert and South Walter streets, Roelindale, West Roxbury district.	One ball ground. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, tennis, skating and children's corner.
Rutherford Avenue Playground.....	1.10	Rutherford avenue, Washington and Union streets, Charlestown district.	

Savin Hill Playground (8.35 acres upland; 24.35 acres flats).	32.70	Springdale and Denny streets, Savin Hill, Dorchester district.	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, basket ball, skating and beach bathing.
Smith's Pond.....	20.08	Stony Brook Reservation, Hyde Park.....	Children's corner and shelter.
Tyler Street Playground.....	.26	Tyler street, city proper.....	Children's corner and shelter.
Ward 19 Playground.....	4.24	Phillips street, near Tremont street, Roxbury district.....	Children's playground.
West Fifth Street Playground.....	.41	West Fifth street, between D and E streets, South Boston district.....	Children's playground.
West Third Street Playground.....	.28	West Third street, corner of B street, South Boston district.....	Three ball grounds. One Rugby and two Soccer football grounds, skating, shower baths and children's corner.
William Eustis Playground.....	4.88	Norfolk avenue and Proctor street, Roxbury district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Wood Playground.....	3.10	Near Hallet street, Neponset, Dorchester district.	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....		Bunker Hill and Lexington streets, Charlestown district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....		Tyler street, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 8 Gymnasium.....		Blossom street, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....		Harrison avenue and Plympton street, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....		Columbia road, near Upham's Corner, Dorchester district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
D Street Gymnasium.....		D street, at Commonwealth Park, South Boston district.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
East Boston Gymnasium.....		Paris street, East Boston district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and basket ball courts.
Cabot Street Gymnasium.....		Cabot street, near Whittier street, Roxbury district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 30 feet.
Curtis Hall Gymnasium.....		South street, corner Sedgwick street, Jamaica Plain district.....	Indoor gymnasium, shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 25 feet.
North Bennet Street Gymnasium.....	3.69	North Bennet street at playground, city proper.....	Indoor gymnasium and shower baths.
Malloch's Wharf (1.15 acres upland; 2.54 acres flats).	2.54	Freepoint street, near foot of Park street, Dorchester district.....	
Paul Gore Street Playground.....	.74	Northeast side Paul Gore street, between Centre street and Chestnut avenue.	

Location, Area and Equipment of Baths and Beaches, 1915-16.

Name.	Area, Acres.	Location.	Equipment.
Cabot Street Bath.....		In Cabot Street Bath House Building, Roxbury district.	Shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 30 feet.
Copley School Bath.....		Bartlett street, between Pearl and School streets, Charlestown district.	Shower baths.
Curtis Hall Bath.....		In Curtis Hall, Jamaica Plain district.	Shower baths and swimming pool, 75 feet by 25 feet.
Dewey Beach Bath.....	4.80	Medford street, at Charlestown Heights, Charlestown district.	Beach bathing during summer months.
Dover Street Bath.....		Dover street, near Harrison avenue, city proper....	Shower baths.
Freeport Street Bath.....		Freeport street, Dorchester district.....	Beach bathing during summer months.
Girls' Latin School Bath.....		Huntington avenue, near Fens, Roxbury district....	Shower baths.
L Street Bath.....		On Strandway, Dorchester Bay, South Boston.....	Beach bathing during entire year.
McKenzie Beach Bath.....		On Strandway, at head of Dorchester Bay, South Boston.	Beach bathing during summer months.
North Bennet Street Bath.....		In North Bennet Street Gymnasium.....	Shower baths.
North End Beach Bath (land, 3.70 acres; flats, 3 acres).	6.70	Commercial street, at Charles river.....	Beach bathing during the summer months for men, women and children.
Spring Street Bath.....		Spring street, West Roxbury, at Charles river.....	River bathing during the summer months for men and boys.
Tenean Beach Bath.....		Tenean street, Dorchester district.....	Beach bathing during summer months.
Wood Island Bath.....		At Wood Island Park.....	Beach bathing during summer months.
Border Street Floating Bath.....		Border street, East Boston.....	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Charlesbank Floating Bath.....		Charles River Basin at Charlesbank.....	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Dover Street Floating Bath.....		Dover street, at Fort Point Channel, city proper....	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
East Boston Wharf.....		Conder street, corner of Meridian street, East Boston district.	Storage basin and repair shop.
Fort Point Channel Floating Bath.....		Northern avenue, city proper.....	One floating bath house for men only.
Jeffries Point Floating Bath.....		Jeffries Point, East Boston district.....	One floating bath house for men and women.
Mystic Bridge Floating Bath.....		Chelsea street, at Mystic river, Charlestown district.	One floating bath house for men and women.
Warren Bridge Floating Bath.....		Warren avenue, at Charles river, Charlestown district.	Two floating bath houses for men and women.
Dover Street Laundry.			
North End Park Laundry.			

Object	Expenditures for 1915-16.	Balances Unexpended.	Loans authorized but not issued.
Public parks.....		\$1,500 00	
Bath house, Orient Heights.....		5,000 00	
Boston Common, seats.....	\$557 91	2,341 05	
Charlesbank, improved.....	170 00		
Charlestown Heights and.....	663 82		
Commonwealth avenue streets.....	1,548 18		
Convenience stations, square.....	1,998 32	12,084 37	
Copp's Hill Playground.....	1,023 48		
Fellows Street Playgro.....		339 67	
Fens, improvements.....	1,550 32		
Franklin Park golf link.....	4,717 45	519 91	
Franklin square sand ga.....			\$2,500 00
Gymnasium, East Boston.....	545 55	4,868 79	
Gymnasium, Ward Boston.....	244 37		
Highland Park, improv.....	642 46	376 59	
Horticultural Building.....		1,333 01	
Improvements of small.....	2,326 38		
Orchard Park, improv.....		10,829 67	
Parker Hill, grading.....	9,999 97	03	
Playground accommoda.....	26,363 76	17,073 57	
Playgrounds, completio.....	20,414 83	25 00	
Playgrounds, improvem.....	1,707 93	178 23	
Playground, Hyde Park.....		24,950 00	
Playground, Mattapan.....			25,000 00
Playground, Mt. Ida se.....	2,429 45	40 02	
Playground, Ward 2.....	1,807 20		
Playground, Ward 5.....	3,415 00		
Public landing, Freeport.....		850 00	
Refectory Building, Free.....	1,338 19		
Ronan Park.....	20,135 18	79,864 82	
Savin Hill Beach, addit.....	6,468 28		
Tenean Beach, property.....	56,354 00		
Zoological Garden and.....	102 95		
Totals.....	\$166,524 98	\$321,174 73	\$27,500 00

	Totals.	Grand Totals.
Boston Common, s		\$557 91
Charlesbank, impro		170 00
Charlestown High		663 82
Commonwealth ave streets.		1,548 18
Convenience station		1,998 32
Copp's Hill Playgr		1,023 48
Fens, improvement		1,550 32
Franklin Park, golf		4,717 45
Gymnasium, East		545 55
Gymnasium, Ward		244 37
Highland Park, im		642 46
Improvement of sm		2,326 38
Parker Hill, gradin		9,999 97
Playground accom		26,363 76
Playgrounds, comp		
Mt. Ida.....	5,132 08	
Norfolk Street..	1,882 02	
Rutherford Aven	3,400 73	
Playgrounds, impre		20,414 83
Columbus Avenu	\$227 30	
Mystic.....	1,236 92	
Orient Heights..	215 81	
William Eustis..	27 90	
		1,707 93
Playground, Mt. Id		2,429 45
Playground, Ward		1,807 20
Playground, Ward		3,415 00
Refectory Building		1,338 19
Ronan Park.....		20,135 18
Savin Hill Beach, s		6,468 28
Tenean Beach, prog		56,354 00
Zoological Garden s		102 95
		\$166,524 98

ANUARY 31, 1916.

No.	Sports.	Men's Gymnasium.	Women and Children's Gymnasium.	General Labor and Materials.	Rental.	Totals.

Expenditures on Account of Maintenance from February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916.

BATHS AND SHOWERS.	Buildings.	Furnishings.	Rental.	General Expenses.	Construction Fence.	Totals.
Labot Street Bath.....	\$11,464 68	\$785 00	.....	\$803 07	.....	\$13,052 75
Murtis Hall Bath.....	4,414 85	785 00	.....	25 00	.....	5,224 85
Dewey Beach Bath.....	4,789 59	400 00	.....	45 00	.....	5,234 59
Dover Street Bath.....	13,520 11	990 00	.....	153 25	.....	14,663 36
Freeport Street Bath.....	1,212 85	125 00	\$500 00	65 00	.....	1,902 85
L Street Bath.....	16,724 18	1,454 84	.....	437 00	\$2,530 16	21,146 18
McKensie Beach Bath.....	2,224 64	131 00	.....	531 35	.....	2,886 99
North Bennet Street Bath.....	9,955 57	710 00	.....	160 09	.....	10,825 66
North End Beach Bath.....	9,643 28	895 00	.....	105 88	.....	10,644 16
Savin Hill Beach Bath.....	1,636 80	58 00	.....	.....	.....	1,694 80
Tenean Beach Bath.....	2,188 92	50 00	.....	331 57	.....	2,570 49
Wood Island Bath.....	2,598 69	210 00	.....	.....	.....	2,808 69
Border Street Floating Bath.....	679 29	58 00	750 00	.....	.....	1,487 29
Charlesbank Floating Bath.....	842 00	58 00	.....	.....	.....	900 00
Dover Street Floating Bath.....	692 00	58 00	.....	.....	.....	750 00
East Boston Wharf.....	546 17	50 00	800 00	.....	.....	1,396 17
Jeffries Point Floating Bath.....	346 99	.....	.....	.....	.....	346 99
Warren Bridge Floating Bath....	850 75	58 00	.....	.....	.....	908 75
Ward 3 Showers.....	375 60	50 00	.....	8 00	.....	433 60
Ward 7 Showers.....	550 68	58 00	.....	.....	.....	608 68
Ward 9 Showers.....	915 91	47 00	.....	5 00	.....	967 91
Ward 15 Showers.....	3,923 67	58 00	.....	.....	.....	3,981 67
Ward 16 Showers.....	926 90	141 00	.....	.....	.....	1,067 90
Ward 17 Showers.....	852 54	50 00	.....	8 00	.....	910 54
D Street Showers.....	1,931 05	114 00	.....	.....	.....	2,045 05
East Boston Showers.....	3,751 16	155 10	.....	.....	.....	3,906 26
Dover Street Laundry.....	18,381 78	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,381 78
North End Park Laundry.....	1,597 53	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,597 53
General Repairs — Baths.....	.....	.....	.....	7,340 32	.....	7,340 32
Randidge Fund.....	.....	.....	.....	99 00	.....	99 00
	\$117,538 18	\$7,548 94	\$2,050 00	\$10,117 53	\$2,530 16	\$139,784 81

**Expenditures from February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916, on Parks
and Squares in Existence on January 12, 1887.**

*Maintained in Part by the Transfer Appropriation of \$196,230.40 from the
George F. Parkman Fund Income.*

	Labor.	Material.	Total.
Arnold Arboretum.....	\$2,614 93	\$236 44	\$2,851 37
Belmont square.....	410 59	6 50	417 09
Berwick Park.....	85 89	20 75	106 64
Blackstone square.....	687 08	117 50	804 58
Boston Common.....	21,718 13	3,626 03	25,344 16
Brighton square.....	220 75	20 60	241 35
Bromley Park.....	198 61	26 85	225 46
Cedar square.....	161 51	3 00	164 51
Central square.....	358 75	35 85	394 60
Centre street.....	44 00	2 00	46 00
Charlesbank.....	10,243 30	920 14	11,163 44
City Hall grounds.....	111 58	3 00	114 58
City square.....	207 33	38 50	245 83
Concord square.....	147 25	37 60	184 85
Copley square.....	234 28	14 85	249 13
Eaton square.....	342 43	29 25	371 68
Essex square.....	83 84	8 25	92 09
Fens.....	8,599 55	6,636 69	15,236 24
Fern square.....	36 75	3 00	39 75
Fort Hill square.....	430 80	74 50	505 30
Franklin Park.....	37,078 93	9,747 60	46,826 53
Franklin square.....	741 27	126 99	868 26
Highland Park.....	264 24	10 50	274 74
Horatio Harris Park.....	399 00	20 00	419 00
Independence square.....	740 25	91 35	831 60
Jackson square.....	105 50	4 50	110 00
Lincoln square.....	205 99	12 25	218 24
Linwood Park.....	61 00	.....	61 00
Longwood Park.....	234 70	33 35	268 05
Madison Park.....	714 11	109 75	823 86
Massachusetts avenue.....	1,033 97	134 00	1,167 97
Marine Park.....	14,090 54	16,987 52	31,078 06
Maverick square.....	328 93	17 00	345 93
<i>Carried forward.....</i>	<i>\$102,885 78</i>	<i>\$39,156 11</i>	<i>\$142,041 89</i>

**Expenditures on Parks and Squares in Existence on
January 12, 1887.—Concluded.**

	Labor.	Material.	Total.
<i>Brought forward.</i>	\$102,885 78	\$39,156 11	\$142,041 89
Meeting House Hill.....	321 50	30 35	351 85
Mt. Bowdoin.....	256 50	18 00	274 50
Park square.....	35 25	.....	35 25
Orchard Park.....	604 95	85 50	690 45
Public Garden.....	14,164 60	1,845 43	16,000 03
Prescott square.....	105 00	.....	105 00
Putnam square.....	122 35	6 00	128 35
Riverway.....	6,295 35	1,743 12	8,038 47
Rutland square.....	115 50	31 75	147 25
Soldiers Monument lot.....	41 00	2 00	43 00
Sullivan square.....	330 87	32 50	363 37
Thomas Park.....	857 65	71 88	929 53
Union Park.....	182 00	32 00	214 00
Walnut Park.....	141 35	2 50	143 85
Washington Park.....	1,109 34	194 85	1,304 19
Winthrop square.....	315 22	29 25	344 47
Worcester square.....	251 45	46 85	298 30
Wood Island Park.....	8,408 97	1,571 23	9,980 20
Aquarium.....	15,204 72	6,342 10	21,546 82
Zoological Gardens.....	35,126 23	20,381 28	55,507 51
Totals.	\$186,865 58	\$71,622 70	\$258,488 28

RECAPITULATION.

Expenditures on account of maintenance from February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916.

Parks and gardens	\$464,564 14	
Playgrounds and gymnasias	141,221 32	
Baths and beaches	139,784 81	
Celebrations and entertainments	8,990 57	
General expenses	142,782 55	
		<u>\$897,343 39</u>
Expenditures on account of land and construction from February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916		166,524 98
		<u><u>\$1,063,868 37</u></u>

CASH RECEIPTS OF THE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1915, TO JANUARY 31, 1916.

PARK DIVISION.

For labor, suppression of gypsy and brown-tail moths	\$17,387 84	
From the Commonwealth, for moth suppression	3,000 00	
For labor, other city departments, etc.	14,834 14	
From balance of gift funds	6,530 33	
From the Boston Common Tree Fund, income,	200 00	
For use of towels and soap	1,015 04	
From coin locks, convenience stations	599 11	
From sale of horses, etc.	5,185 50	
From sale of cart, horse collars and harness	215 00	
From sale of junk, wood, shrubs, etc.	203 00	
From sale of live stock, wool and fowl	25 75	
From sale of land	1,500 00	
From sale of buildings	627 60	
Refund on six Ford autos	300 00	
Rents	9,709 24	
		<u>\$61,332 55</u>
<i>Carried forward</i>		<u>\$61,332 55</u>

Brought forward \$61,332 55

RECREATION DIVISION.

For use of bathing suits, towels, etc.	\$28,943 06	
Commission on weighing machines	110 60	
Commission on telephone stations	24 85	
Rents	960 67	
		30,039 18
		<u>\$91,371 73</u>

Above receipts were credited as follows:

General revenue, city income	\$42,609 43
Sinking Fund	627 60
Public parks	1,500 00
Appropriation, Park and Recreation Department	46,634 70
	<u>\$91,371 73</u>

Park Betterments Collected by City Collector to January 31, 1916.

	Assessments Committed to Collector.	Abated.	Net Assess- ments.	Collected.	Outstanding January 31, 1916.
Public Park, Back Bay...	\$434,600 00	\$144,195 73	\$290,404 27	\$290,404 27	
Marine Park.....	23,543 00	12,616 80	10,926 20	10,926 20	
Franklin Park.....	135,029 00	122,000 66	13,028 34	13,028 34	
Parkway, Old Harbor....	60,789 00	50,426 00	10,363 00	8,256 00	\$2,107 00
" Muddy River..	108,972 00	83,594 25	25,377 75	23,238 75	2,139 00
" West Roxbury,	154,107 00	113,808 00	40,299 00	31,913 00	8,386 00
" Dorchester.....	9,713 00	3,055 54	6,657 46	5,927 74	729 72
	<u>\$926,753 00</u>	<u>\$529,696 98</u>	<u>\$397,056 02</u>	<u>\$383,694 80</u>	<u>\$13,261 72</u>

Public Park and Playground Debt.

Liabilities.

Total loans outstanding January 31, 1916 . . . \$14,633,410 98

Resources.

Sinking Fund January 31, 1916 . . . 8,603,313 71

Net Debt January 31, 1916 . . . \$6,030,097 27

Classification of the Cash Receipts of the Recreation Division of the Park and Recreation Department from February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916.

	Towels.	Soap.	Pool.	Valuation Envelopes.	Suits.	Trunks.	Total.
Border Street Floating Bath (men).....	\$41 65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$41 65
Border Street Floating Bath (women).....	3 93	.....	.....	.....	\$40 53	.....	44 46
Cabot Street Bath.....	1,134 05	\$438 01	\$1,237 17	\$5 40	.....	.....	2,814 63
Charlesbank Floating Bath (men).....	64 95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64 95
Charlesbank Floating Bath (women).....	17 04	.....	.....	.....	15 20	.....	32 24
Curtis Hall Bath.....	521 82	151 99	2,927 85	24 85	.....	.....	3,626 51
D Street Gymnasium.....	297 58	135 71	.....	.....	.....	.....	433 29
Dewey Beach (men).....	35 94	.....	.....	15	59 35	\$25 40	120 84
Dewey Beach (women).....	4 80	.....	.....	.....	81 85	.....	86 65
Dover Street Bath.....	2,950 15	1,444 42	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,394 57
Dover Street Bridge Floating Bath (men).....	27 15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27 15
Dover Street Bridge Floating Bath (women).....	18 27	.....	.....	.....	6 10	.....	24 37
East Boston Gymnasium.....	894 11	454 57	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,348 68
Freeport Street Bath.....	12 58	15	.....	1 05	62 10	2 15	78 03
Jeffries Point Floating Bath.....	75	.....	.....	.....	3 20	.....	3 95
L Street Bath (men).....	1,006 82	.....	.....	769 20	3 45	3,142 40	5,521 87
L Street Bath (boys).....	33 79	.....	.....	3 80	05	44 50	81 64
L Street Bath (women).....	120 73	.....	.....	13 66	1,050 90	.....	1,185 28

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1916.

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to DATE.		Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.						Totals.
MAIN PARK SYSTEM:								
Commonwealth avenue....	1894-1905....	.....	\$166,607 93	112.7 acres	12.1 miles	11.9 miles		
Fens.....	1877-1879....	\$596,254 49	2,191,790 32	116.99 "	4.32 "	7.04 "	1.1 miles	22 acres
* Riverway.....	1890.....	457,457 53	674,296 32	40 "	1.4 "	2.8 "	1.2 "	8 "
† Olmsted Park.....	1890-1892....	1,081,947 60	754,373 59	180 "	2.7 "	5.8 "	1.6 "	77 "
Arboretum.....	1892.....	245,584 25	381,793 81	36 "	3.4 "	3.2 "	1.4 "	
Arnold Arboretum.....	1882-1895....	79,354 15	388,372 84	223 "	3.4 "	5.65 "	.....	0.6 acre
West Roxbury Parkway....	1894.....	135,265 29	22,123 21	150 "	2.8 "	4.3 "	2.4 "	
Franklin Park and Zoological Garden.....	1883-1884....	1,551,896 63	2,752,272 82	527 "	7.91 "	14.9 "	1 mile	7.4 acres
MARINE PARK SYSTEM:								
Columbia road.....	1899.....	447,528 63	540,511 98	988,040 56				
Dorchester way.....	1892.....	63,735 54	65,187 12	128,922 66	4.2 "	4.5 "		
Strandway.....	{ 1890-1892, 1897-1901 }	772,515 12	415,932 21	{ 109 " land 187.5 " flats }				
Marine Park and Aquarium,	1883.....	232,972 57	1,217,477 25	{ 52.5 " land 4.9 " flats }	0.5 mile	1.89 "	.....	3.4 acres
‡ Castle Island.....	1890.....	.....	39,890 91	{ 25.7 " land 78.3 " flats }				
‡ Governor's Island.....	1911.....	.....	20,000 00	73 "	.....	1.95 "		
SAVIN HILL BRACE PLAY- GROUND.....	{ 1899.....	44,441 05	11,263 36	{ 8.35 " land 24.35 " flats }				
SAVIN HILL BRACE, ADDI- TIONAL LAND.....	.....	6,318 28	150 00	6,468 28				

SAVIN HILL PARK.....	1909.....	31,925 55	9,074 45	41,000 00	8.26 " { 55.6 " land 155.4 " flats }	0.3 "	2.1 "		
WOOD ISLAND PARK.....	1889-1891.....	132,800 00	275,346 93	408,146 93					
CHARLESBANK.....	1893.....	373,916 99	389,720 40	713,637 39	10 "		1.5 "		
TRINITY TRIANGLE.....	1885.....	30,000 00		30,000 00	0.12 acre				
CHARLESTOWN HEIGHTS, DREWY BEACH.....	1891.....	50,538 02	154,217 56	204,755 58	{ 6.1 acres land 4.3 " flats }		0.4 mile		
CHARLESTOWN PLAYGROUND.....	1891.....	172,923 31	32,931 93	205,855 24	{ 14 " land 4 " flats }		0.6 "		
DORCHESTER PARK.....	1891-1903.....	64,165 37	16,311 18	80,476 55	26 "				
FRANKLIN FIELD.....	1892.....	157,341 22	194,228 38	351,569 60	77 "	0.65 mile	1.09 miles		
NORTH END BEACH.....	1893.....	328,364 44	169,262 27	497,626 71	{ 3.7 " land 3 " flats }				
COPP'S HILL TERRACE.....	1893.....	90,858 19	43,222 17	134,080 36					
COPP'S HILL PLAYGROUND AND SHELTER.....			12,418 88	12,418 88	0.6 acre		0.11 mile		
§ CHESTNUT HILL PARK.....	{ 1898-1899 and 1902 }	210,239 06	6,940 60	217,179 66	55.4 acres	1.4 miles			
BOSTON COMMON AND PUBLIC GARDEN, IRRIGATION SYS- TEM, ETC.....			2,461 16	2,461 16					
BOSTON COMMON, SEATS AT BANDSTAND.....			1,658 95	1,658 95					
CHARLESGATE, WEST BRIDGE RESTORATION.....			2,324 02	2,324 02					
COPLEY SQUARE PLANS.....			250 00	250 00					
CONVENIENCE STATION, CITY SQUARE, AND AT OR NEAR PARK SQUARE.....			4,073 32	4,073 32					
Carried forward.....		\$7,358,343 28	\$10,906,485 82	\$18,264,829 10	2,379.77 acres	45.08 miles	69.23 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres

* An additional area of 164 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

† An additional area of 18 acres is within the limits of the town of Brookline.

‡ Custody given to the city by Act of Congress.

§ 49 acres transferred from Water Department; an additional area of 100.66 acres, including water area of 122.7 acres, is under control of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1916.— *Continued.*

PARKS.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.			Area.	Length of Drive-ways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.	Totals.					
<i>Brought forward.</i>									
FELLOWS STREET PLAYGROUND		\$7,358,343 28	\$10,906,485 82	\$18,264,829 10	2,372.77 acres	45.08 miles	69.23 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
SANITARY.....			627 75	627 75					
GYMNASIUM, EAST BOSTON.....			545 55	545 55					
GYMNASIUM, WARD BUILDING, WARD 8.....			244 37	244 37					
HIGHLAND PARK, IMPROVEMENTS.....			2,623 41	2,623 41					
HORTICULTURAL BUILDING.....			1,666 99	1,666 99					
IMPROVEMENTS OF SMALL PARKS AND SQUARES.....			6,581 06	6,581 06					
LAND, HEMENWAY STREET AND THE FENWAY.....		140,600 00		140,600 00	(See Fens.)				
ORCHARD PARK IMPROVEMENTS.....			4,901 80	4,901 80					
PARKER HILL GRADING.....			9,999 97	9,999 97					
PLAYGROUND ACCOMMODATIONS, MANTAPAN DISTRICT.....		274 09	1,460 45	1,734 54					
PLAYGROUND ACCOMMODATIONS, WARD 19.....	1913.	140,651 12	2,492 26	143,143 38	4.24 acres				
PLAYGROUNDS, COMPLETION OF.....			57,158 48	57,158 48					
PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS.....			2,713 82	2,713 82					
PLAYGROUND, HYDE PARK.....			50 00	50 00					
PLAYGROUND, Mt. Ida SECTION.....	1912.	97,463 18	4,206 08	101,669 26	11.07 "				

PLAYGROUND, WARD 2.....	1912.....	2,775 25	1,224 75	4,000 00				
PLAYGROUND, WARD 5.....	1912.....	80,946 47	7,068 58	88,015 05	1.07 "			
PLAYGROUND, WARD 7.....	1912.....		5,493 64	5,493 64				
PRINCE STREET PLAYGROUND SANITARY.....	{1897-1899...} 1901.....	180,474 70	8,304 61	188,779 31	0.4 acre			
ROMAN PARK.....			20,135 18	20,135 18				
TENEAN BEACH PROPERTY...	1915.....	55,000 00	1,354 00	56,354 00	8.7 acres			
NORTH BRIGHTON PLAY- GROUND.....	1894.....	22,107 12	30,802 77	52,909 89	14 "			
NEPOMSET PLAYGROUND.....	1896.....	24,804 39	26,189 35	50,993 74	18 "			
BILLINGS FIELD.....	1896.....	47,068 98	24,367 53	71,436 51	11 "			
* FIRST STREET PLAYGROUND..	1897.....		30,840 40	30,840 40	4.6 "	0.4 mile		
† SPAULDING SQUARE.....	1897.....	4,000 00		4,000 00	0.14 acre			
MYSTIC PLAYGROUND.....	1897.....	50,125 00	30,515 54	80,640 54	2.3 acres			
† FELLOWS STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1897.....	14,503 72	11,065 22	25,568 94	0.85 acre			
CHRISTOPHER GIBSON PLAY- GROUND.....	1897.....	37,709 58	10,042 75	47,752 33	5.8 acres			
COLUMBUS AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	{1899-1900...} {1901-1902...}	327,503 84	37,479 58	364,983 42	5 "			
ASEMONT PLAYGROUND.....	1899.....	43,990 09	9,000 00	52,990 09	2.2 "			
ROSLINDALE PLAYGROUND....	1899.....	26,125 11	14,005 71	40,130 82	3.8 "			
FOREST HILLS PLAYGROUND...	1902.....	25,166 75	15,000 00	40,166 75	9.6 "			
Carried forward.....		\$8,679,632 67	\$11,284,647 42	\$19,964,280 09	2,475.54 acres	45.08 miles	69.63 miles	8.7 miles
								118.4 acres

* Transferred from, and \$454.15 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

† Transferred to Street Department and from Street Department to Public Grounds Department.

‡ 25,470 square feet transferred from, and \$2,000 expended by, the Public Grounds Department.

Park and Recreation Statistics to January 31, 1916.—Concluded.

Parks.	Year of Acquisition.	Cost to Date.		Area.	Length of Driveways.	Length of Walks.	Length of Rides.	Area of Ponds and Rivers.
		Land.	Construction.					
<i>Brought forward.....</i>		\$8,679,632 67	\$11,284,647 42	\$19,964,280 09	45.08 miles	69.63 miles	8.7 miles	118.4 acres
COTTAGE STREET PLAYGROUND, 1902.....	1902	47,002 32	8,747 68	55,750 00				
RANDOLPH STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1903	256,440 63	27,302 32	283,742 95				
MARCELLA STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1903-1905		35,155 28	35,155 28				
ROGERS PARK.....	1899	30,000 00	5,353 11	35,353 11				
BERNERS SQUARE.....	1901		294 70	294 70				
OAK SQUARE.....	1902		1,279 89	1,279 89				
CAMBRIDGE, LINCOLN AND MANSFIELD STREETS.....	1910							
COMMONWEALTH PLAYGROUND.....	1905		8,633 91	8,633 91				
ORIENT HEIGHTS PLAYGROUND.....	1909	10,015 00	26,124 02	36,139 02				
WEST THIRD STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	4,000 00	14,201 30				
WEST FIFTH STREET PLAYGROUND.....	1909	10,201 30	4,597 40	14,798 70				
WILLIAM EUSTIS PLAYGROUND, 1909.....	1909	68,187 06	24,477 49	92,664 55				
JOHN WINTEROP PLAYGROUND, 1911.....	1911	20,994 26	13,682 97	34,677 23				
PLAYGROUNDS, INVESTIGATING SITES.....		295 29		295 29				
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PLAYGROUND.....	1912		1,500 00	1,500 00				
NORFOLK STREET PLAYGROUND, 1912.....	1912	22,011 33	26,106 41	48,117 74				
PARKINSON PLAYGROUND.....	1912		1,565 00	1,565 00				

PARIS STREET PLAYGROUND...	1912.....	50,630 64	4,988 50	55,619 14	1.27 *			
TYLER STREET PLAYGROUND..	1912.....	26,239 19	10,387 81	36,627 00	0.26 acre			
CAROLINA AVENUE PLAY- GROUND.....	1912.....	25,477 60	1,972 78	27,450 38	3.08 acres			
PORTSMOUTH STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1912.....	15,000 00	5,547 87	20,547 87	4.29 *			
* PARKER HILL PLAYGROUND..	1912.....				4.5 *			1.6 *
* WEAVER PROPERTY, FRESHFORD STREET, DORCHESTER.....	1912.....		28 00	28 00	1.15 * land { 2.64 * flats			
* FACTORY HILL PLAYGROUND..	1912.....				5.2 *			
* PAUL GOSS STREET PLAY- GROUND.....	1913.....				0.74 acre			
* RIPLEY PLAYGROUND.....	1913.....				0.86 *			
* SMITH'S POND PLAYGROUND,	1914.....				20.08 acres			
General account.....								
* WOOD PLAYGROUND.....	1913.....		73,987 50	73,987 50	3.1 *			
Park Nursery.....								
Betterment expenses.....			29,947 07	29,947 07				
Four spraying machines.....	1912.....		13,356 10	13,356 10				
Seating accommodations.....	1912.....		4,400 00	4,400 00				
	1912.....		2,813 03	2,813 03				
Parkman House.....	1913.....		6,000 00	6,000 00				
		\$9,272,328 59	\$11,636,896 26	\$20,899,224 85	2,580.22 acres	45.08 miles	69.63 miles	8.7 miles
								120 acres

¹ Transferred from, and \$30,000 expended for land by, the Public Grounds Department.

² Transferred from Street Commissioners.

³ Custody given to the city by Statutes 1891, chapter 421.

⁴ Leased by Park Department.

⁵ Transferred from Public Works Department, Water Service.

⁶ Transferred from Public Works Department, Sanitary Service.

⁷ Acquired by annexation of Hyde Park.

⁸ Transferred from School Department.

⁹ Acquired by gift.

¹⁰ Transferred from Metropolitan Park Commission.

Of the above total lengths of driveways, walks and rides, there have been completed to date, respectively, 40.8 miles, 59.2 miles and 6.3 miles.

Beaches, Swimming Pools and Floating Baths Attendance, 1915-16.

	Men.	Boys.	Pool.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Dover Street Bridge Floating Bath,	6,050	38,840	.....	7,401	21,055	73,346
L Street Bath House.....	312,857	173,847	.....	58,960	90,155	635,819
Wood Island Park Bath.....	83,326	30,142	.....	9,880	14,460	137,808
Border Street Floating Bath.....	1,111	23,090	.....	5,751	16,338	46,290
North End Park.....	5,846	120,157	.....	3,791	43,992	173,786
Dewey Beach Bath.....	17,040	65,895	.....	18,420	37,815	139,170
Charlesbank Floating Bath.....	8,480	52,460	.....	16,150	37,576	114,666
Jeffries Point Floating Bath.....	.....	7,054	.....	1,265	5,712	14,031
Warren Bridge Floating Bath.....	19,125	51,975	.....	21,500	25,025	117,625
Tenean Beach Bath.....	20,944	34,105	.....	9,867	26,376	91,292
Curtis Hall Pool.....	.....	.....	42,224	.....	.....	42,224
Cabot Street Pool.....	.....	.....	19,424	.....	.....	19,424
Ward 16 Pool.....	.....	.....	7,434	.....	.....	7,434
McKensie Beach Bath.....	4,428	41,195	.....	4,710	31,878	82,211
Freeport Street Bath.....	9,320	20,470	.....	6,370	16,975	53,135
Savin Hill Beach.....	44,970	27,855	.....	34,450	24,665	131,940
	533,497	687,085	69,082	198,515	392,022	1,880,201

Shower Baths Attendance, 1915-16.

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
Dover Street Bath.....	153,901	9,728	40,378	13,607	217,614
Cabot Street Bath.....	68,911	44,443	17,707	13,241	144,302
North Bennet Street Bath.....	117,987	18,331	33,608	15,000	184,926
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	47,826	31,031	10,869	10,765	100,491
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	38,918	13,833	3,980	3,527	60,258
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	28,463	7,660	3,364	2,104	41,591
East Boston Gymnasium.....	68,363	18,229	14,062	13,718	114,372
L Street Bath.....	312,857	173,847	58,960	90,155	635,819
D Street Gymnasium.....	32,262	22,366	4,119	10,620	69,367
Curtis Hall Baths.....	33,695	45,423	17,085	11,930	108,133
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....	66,630	34,295	9,080	10,910	120,915
Ward 15 Municipal Building.....	82,137	10,517	37,643	26,101	156,398
Ward 17 Municipal Building.....	13,350	5,414	4,230	2,732	25,726
	1,065,300	435,117	255,085	224,410	1,979,912

Gymnasias — Class and Individual Attendance, 1915-16.

	Indi- viduals.	Men.	School- boys.	Working Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Mothers.	Total.
Cabot Street Gymnasium.....	5,424	3,916	5,965	3,897	1,732	3,275	409	24,618
North Bennet Street Gymnasium,	4,039	2,545	7,645	1,520	674	2,465	.....	18,888
Ward 16 Gymnasium.....	4,223	7,751	8,203	6,509	6,288	9,536	6,096	48,606
Ward 7 Gymnasium.....	288	515	1,709	309	314	880	.....	4,015
Ward 9 Gymnasium.....	3,141	2,571	5,877	719	1,598	4,319	767	18,992
East Boston Gymnasium.....	2,774	5,124	7,688	3,394	2,165	6,636	.....	27,781
D Street Gymnasium.....	4,268	3,723	8,839	2,847	888	3,286	377	24,228
Curtis Hall Gymnasium.....	3,535	3,510	5,605	4,180	4,870	4,880	2,685	29,265
Ward 3 Gymnasium.....	2,428	1,689	3,219	2,070	1,797	3,862	1,911	16,976
Ward 17 Gymnasium.....	1,546	1,262	4,647	609	1,765	3,666	721	14,216
	31,666	32,606	59,397	26,054	22,091	42,805	12,966	227,585

Skating and Toboggan Attendance, 1915-16.

	Days.	Total Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Billings Field.....	44	15,909	362
Columbus Avenue.....	39	17,111	439
Charlesbank.....	13	6,600	507
Charlestown Playground.....	39	29,080	745
Commonwealth Park.....	32	9,115	284
Cottage Street, East Boston.....	23	11,022	501
First Street Playground.....	19	45,700	2,405
Franklin Field.....	19	82,328	4,333
Forest Hills.....	29	4,538	156
Gibson Street Playground.....	23	15,650	680
Marcella Street Playground.....	41	20,634	503
Mystic Playground.....	40	5,673	141
Neponset Playground.....	31	11,780	380
North Brighton Playground.....	24	24,534	1,022
Norfolk Street Playground.....	29	8,425	290
Orient Heights.....	4	300	75
Randolph Street Playground.....	16	8,541	533
Strandway Playground.....	20	20,150	1,007
Savin Hill Playground.....	23	18,185	790
William Eustis Playground.....	15	6,910	460
Wood Island Park.....	26	21,865	841
Totals.....	548	384,050	16,454
Tobogganing, Franklin Park.....	21	20,660	984

Total Annual Attendance, 1915-16.

Ashmont Playground	118,811
Billings Field	86,812
Columbus Avenue Playground	129,130
Cottage Street Playground	138,383
Charlestown Playground	197,209
Charlesbank, women's gymnasium	95,276
Charlesbank, men's gymnasium	144,108
Commonwealth Park	130,575
Dorchester Park	8,362
Forest Hills Playground	181,826
Franklin Field	275,297
First Street Playground	294,449
Gibson Playground	258,325
John Winthrop Playground	39,400
Marcella Street Playground	295,243
Mystic Playground	80,613
Norfolk Street Playground	85,001
Neponset Playground	135,771
North Brighton Playground	177,655
Orient Heights Playground	44,290
Roslindale Playground	162,453
Randolph Street Playground	115,066
Ripley Playground	15,232
Ronan Park	22,425
Strandway	257,525
Savin Hill Playground	72,860
William Eustis Playground	295,071
West Fifth Street Playground	88,370
West Third Street Playground	57,070
Wood Island Park	100,245
Ward 5 Playground	8,001
Total	4,110,854
Franklin Park golf	27,026
	<u>4,137,800</u>







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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995. The public sector has become a major employer in the UK, and its growth has been a major factor in the overall growth of the economy.

The public sector has also become a major employer in the UK, and its growth has been a major factor in the overall growth of the economy. The public sector has become a major employer in the UK, and its growth has been a major factor in the overall growth of the economy.

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